

U.N. resumes debate on Soviet Jews

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Settlement of Soviet Jews in the Israeli-occupied territories drew sharp criticism Tuesday in the Security Council as Arab and non-Arab countries warned it jeopardized the Middle East peace process. The Security Council planned to convene another session Wednesday to continue discussions on Soviet emigration to the occupied lands. Amr Mosa, Egypt's permanent representative to the United Nations, said the international community was duty-bound to "safeguard the achievement of peace in the Middle East at this critical state in the process." He said Egypt believes that immigration to Israel, coupled with settling Israeli civilians or immigrants in the occupied territories, "constitutes a serious threat to Middle East peace prospects." Mosa said the United States and the Soviet Union have key roles to play in promoting peace in the region and called on them to ensure that the rights of the Palestinian people shall not be jeopardized. "We must not allow anyone to waste this unique opportunity to achieve tangible progress towards a reconciliation between the Jewish and Palestinian peoples," Mosa said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

PLO lodges formal protest with U.S.

TUNES (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has protested to Washington at a U.S. Senate resolution recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's "capital." The PLO gave the U.S. ambassador in Tunis, Robert Pelletreau, a protest note Monday describing the resolution as irresponsible, a violation of international law and a threat to regional security. The PLO news agency Wafa said Tuesday. At the same time it said it welcomed what it called U.S. President George Bush's commitment to international legitimacy. Bush has criticized Jewish settlements in Arab Jerusalem. The note said the non-binding Senate resolution, passed without support from the administration last Thursday, "represents a continuation of attempts to humiliate U.S. policy by attaching aggressive Israeli attitudes." Morocco said it deeply regrets the U.S. Senate's resolution.

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Mubarak meets SPLA envoy

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who has pledged to mediate in Sudan's civil war, met a representative of the Sudanese rebels Tuesday, presidential sources said. Lam Akol, the number three commander of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), handed Mubarak a letter from rebel chief John Garang, the sources said.

Rifal on lecture tour in U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Prime Minister Zaid Rifal Tuesday left for the United States on a three-week lecture tour, a source close to the ex-prime minister said. Among the universities where Rifal is scheduled to address students of graduate level are Harvard University and the University of Boston, the source said.

Sudan releases Reuter correspondent

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan released Hamza Hendawi, Reuters correspondent in Khartoum, Tuesday after four days in detention. Hendawi, an Egyptian, said he was given no explanation for his detention by the army-run security service. Sudanese authorities have issued no statement on the case. He was held by security men at Khartoum airport on his return from Cairo last Friday. "I was in no way ill-treated and interrogated only once. I was questioned about my personal life, professional contacts and in particular about a story I filed last month on Sudanese-Egyptian relations," he said. On his release Hendawi, 33, was taken to the Egyptian embassy and handed over to Egyptian Consul General Ahmad Ragab. He was the second journalist to be held without explanation by Sudan. Last month British journalist Julian O'Connell, who reports for London's Financial Times and Sunday Correspondent, was held for eight days.

Moscow reduces staff at Beirut embassy

BEIRUT (R) — The Soviet Union has cut the number of its diplomats in Beirut after threats by a group to attack countries involved in the mass exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel, diplomatic sources said Tuesday. They said the Soviet mission had sent home some of its diplomats and their families and had asked remaining staff to minimize their movements. Their report followed a threat on March 15 by the pro-Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (JLP) to attack airlines and offices involved in the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel. A fire gutted the first floor of the Soviet embassy in west Beirut Friday. One person was killed.

Lebanese fighting kills two

BEIRUT (R) — Forces fighting for control of Lebanon's Christian enclave battled with rockets, tanks and artillery for three hours Tuesday, killing at least two people. Security sources said the fighting between troops of rebel General Michel Aoun and militiamen of the Lebanese Forces (LF) engulfed three residential areas of east Beirut. They said one of the combatants and a woman civilian were killed.

Rockets kill 27 in Kabul

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Several rockets hit Kabul Tuesday, killing 27 people, Radio Kabul reported. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but the radio, broadcast blamed U.S.-backed insurgents, who have been fighting for 12 years to topple the Communist governments in Kabul. The broadcast, monitored in Islamabad, said most of the dead were aboard a mini-bus that was hit with one of several rockets that landed in a busy residential district. Another 22 people were injured in the rocket barrage, reported Afghanistan's official radio.

U.N. chief arrives in Aqaba

AMMAN (Agencies) — The United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Aqaba Tuesday on a several-day private visit to Jordan in response to an invitation extended to him by His Majesty King Hussein. Perez de Cuellar, who is accompanied by his wife, was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi, Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations Abdullah Salahi, the Aqaba district governor and the Aqaba Region Authority president. The King is expected to hold talks with the U.N. chief during his stay here. High on the agenda for the talks are expected to be the Middle East peace efforts and the stalled Iran-Iraq negotiations after eight years of war.

Gulf peace

Perez de Cuellar is pressing for Iran and Iraq to accept his proposal for a two-month session of direct talks aimed at reaching a permanent peace settlement.

In a report released Monday at the U.N., Perez de Cuellar called for leaders of both countries to give added political impetus to the talks by indicating to each other their sincerity to restart the stalled negotiations.

The U.N. chief's report on the U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group also urged the Security Council to renew the mandate of the force established to monitor



U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is received upon his arrival in Aqaba Tuesday by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasbi (Petra photo)

compliance with the Gulf war ceasefire and investigate violations of the truce that took effect in August 1988. The current six-month mandate for the U.N. observer group expires at the end of March, but its renewal is considered a routine matter.

Perez de Cuellar said that during the past six months there was

relative calm along the ceasefire lines and a significant decline in the number of major truce violations.

But the secretary-general said problems continue in an area northeast of Basra referred to as no man's land.

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Arar expects extraordinary session; row with press remains unsolved

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A royal decree is expected to be issued soon allowing for an extraordinary session for the Lower House of Parliament as requested by the House in a memorandum to His Majesty King Hussein two days ago, House Speaker Suleiman Arar said Tuesday.

Arar said he expected the extraordinary session to begin after 'Eid Al Fitr, which marks the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan and said that the extraordinary session was needed to allow the House to study various laws and issues.

Nearly two thirds of the 80-member Lower House signed the memorandum, which was sent to the King last Saturday. The present session adjourned on Monday night in line with the constitution which allows the first session to end no later than the end of March and a new session is not due until the end of October, but a Royal Decree can convene Parliament for an extraordinary session.

The Lower House which was

elected last November, Arar said, was able to make headway, thanks to close cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities.

He said that the deputies had succeeded in winning public freedoms, release of political detainees, and return of seized passports.

Arar described cooperation between the government and the Lower House as excellent and said that the government had responded favorably to numerous requests put forth by the House in economic, social and political fields.

In his statement to Petra, Arar did not comment on the row between the House and the press which erupted Monday over attacks by some deputies against Jordanian newspapers which had published details of a "secret" parliamentary session last week.

The row, which climaxed in a decision by all Jordanian newspapers to not cover the House's Monday session in the four dailies, started when parliamentary correspondents walked out of the session and staged a sit-in at the House's entrance to protest

against the decision by a five-member investigation committee to seek prosecution of newspapers which published accounts of the "secret" session last Tuesday.

Although the committee's recommendation did not gain a majority vote as required by internal laws, 16 journalists walked out of the press chambers overlooking the floor after 31 deputies, mostly Islamists, voted in support of the recommendation.

The committee, comprising deputies Nayef Hadid, Mohammad Alawneh, Fouad Khalafat, Abdul Munem Abu Zant and Atef Boush, recommended that the House refer the case to the prosecutor general to prosecute newspapers and agencies which carried the session's deliberations. They cited article 38-B of the press and publications law which bars publications from publishing secret House sessions.

Al Rai and the Jordan Times Wednesday published details of the House's closed session which referred nine cases of financial and administrative corruption to the prosecutor general for investigation and possible prosecution.

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Army rounds up Lithuania deserters; fears escalated

VILNIUS (Agencies) — Soviet soldiers Tuesday stormed two hospitals in Lithuania to seize Red Army deserters, the first violent action by Moscow since the Baltic republic declared independence two weeks ago.

Soviet authorities also closed Lithuania to foreign journalists, diplomats and businessmen.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis said he feared the roundup of deserters could pre-empt a full-scale military intervention to crush the independence movement.

"It is obvious that the Soviet armed forces have been given permission to use violence," he said.

Witnesses said some of the deserters were beaten as they were taken from a psychiatric hospital in Vilnius, where they had taken refuge after their republic's parliament declared independence on March 11.

Blood was spattered on the hospital's front steps. General Valentin Varennikov,

commander of Soviet land forces in Lithuania, said 23 deserters were apprehended. He said the deserters had become militants in the nationalist movement and were undergoing special training at one of the hospitals.

But Česlovas Stankavicius, assistant deputy chairman of Lithuania's parliament, called the raids barbaric. Landsbergis said they were "open acts of aggression."

In Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gromitskiy said all foreigners were being asked to leave Lithuania and temporarily refrain from entering its territory.

Diplomats had already been banned from the breakaway republic last week, and journalists outside Lithuania were told they could not travel here.

Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov said the deserters must be taken back to their units but that the crisis would be solved without force.

"There has been no armed

action on Lithuanian territory... everything will be solved by peaceful means," he said at the start of a visit to Paris.

Landsbergis, speaking in Vilnius, told reporters: "We raise this question on democratic nations — is the West once again willing to sell Lithuania to the Soviet Union?"

A North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) spokesman said officials of the 16 member states had discussed the crisis, but said only that they hoped for dialogue between Moscow and the Lithuanians in an atmosphere free of intimidation.

Lithuanian Communist Party chief Algirdas Brazauskas, who led the party's split with Moscow in December, told the Soviet news agency Interfax he wanted to talk to Mikhail Gorbachev about the military occupation of his central committee building.

"I did not think it was possible that crude armed force would be

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Palestinians, Israelis braced for Ramadan, Land Day protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinians threw petrol bombs and burned tyres in Jerusalem Tuesday amid clashes in the Israeli-occupied territories marking the start of the Holy Month of Ramadan, police said. The Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), in a new leaflet, declared Ramadan a month of jihad against Israel. It also called for a general strike Friday to mark Land Day.

The Unified Leadership of the Uprising called for a week of escalation starting Tuesday, leading up to the March 30 anniversary of the 1976 killing by police of six Arabs in protests over land rights.

Land Day should be "special day of clashes in which our people and the heroes of our strike forces will teach the settlers another lesson of the intifada," it said.

Both movements seemed de-

termined to use the anniversary to escalate the 27-month-old uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and surmount internal divisions and disillusionment.

Israel lifted overnight curfews on the West Bank town of Jenin and the Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem and relaxed the night curfew in the Gaza Strip.

Violence began early when masked Palestinians threw two petrol bombs at Israeli motorists commuting to Jerusalem from the settlement town of Maale Adumim on a road that is a site of frequent ambushes.

The explosions caused no damage or injury.

Teenagers later burned tyres in Arab Jerusalem's central Salaheddin shopping street and stoned and overturned Israeli cars. Police fired in the air and detained several suspects.

Palestinians reported clashes in the northern West Bank city of

Nabulus, where troops dispersed a march by about 200 women. At least five men were shot and wounded, hospital officials said.

In Beit Sahour, south of Jerusalem, demonstrating high school students stoned soldiers, who shot and seriously wounded a 17-year-old youth in the head, Palestinians said.

Clashes were also reported in Jenin. The army said it was checking the reports.

Israeli police cancelled leave and drafted some 2,000 reinforcements into Jerusalem to patrol the city Friday, when Land Day coincides with traditional Ramadan mass prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque.

Security sources said that like last year, army and police were expected to place the Gaza Strip under total curfew and bar Palestinians from leaving the West Bank or entering Jerusalem.

Leaders of the uprising said Monday the two parties vying to form Israel's next government were both plotting to deny Palestinian rights.

"The differences between Labour and Likud are nothing but tactical ones on how to deny our rights," the unified leadership of the uprising said in a leaflet.

The underground leaders welcomed the fall of the Israeli government as a sign of political crisis in Israel but said that both Labour and Likud opposed the establishment of a Palestinian state.

"The true yardstick of any government's commitment to peace lies in its acknowledgement of our people's national rights and recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the international conference," the leaflet said.

CAEU seeks to reverse Kuwaiti move to leave

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary-general Hassan Ibrahim said Tuesday the council was seeking Arab mediation to convince Kuwait to reconsider its recent decision to withdraw from the council following claims that it was ineffective in fulfilling the purpose behind its establishment.

Ibrahim said the council's secretariat, which is permanently based in Amman, has referred Kuwait's request to withdraw to member states "so that they can look into it and initiate the appropriate contacts so that Kuwait does not go through with its decision."

Ibrahim told the Jordan Times that Kuwait's decision, if not revoked, would become effective after one year.

Official sources said Kuwait's decision constituted "a blow to the council which has been suffering financial difficulties for several years as a result of shortages in funds."

The sources said the withdrawal of Kuwait, along with its financial contribution amounting to 23 per cent of its budget, "puts the 13-member council in a difficult situation which makes it difficult to continue the work for which it was established."

Kuwaiti Ambassador to Jordan Saleman Al Fassar told the Jordan Times that Kuwait "had repeatedly opposed the way budget shares were distributed among members and the failure of member states to fulfill their commitments."

Fassar confirmed that upon a recommendation last week by the Kuwaiti ministries of finance and planning, the council of ministers decided to withdraw Kuwait from the council.

Kuwaiti sources said the CAEU "no more serves the goals of Arab development" and that "its work has started to clash with the goals of the Arab Economic Council," an Arab League institution.

The sources contended the council "has failed to achieve its designed goals and has become full of profiteering and bureaucracies which amount to a masked unemployment rather than productive offices."

The sources pointed out that the Arab League "is currently in the process of reconsidering several of its institutions with the aim of restructuring them or supporting them after directing criticism against their work, including the CAEU."

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Peres: Either me or polls

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Labour Party leader Shimon Peres said Tuesday that if he fails to form a new government, he will push for early elections rather than give the rival Likud bloc a shot at putting together a coalition.

Peres spoke a day after he failed to pick up a crucial endorsement from Rabbi Eliezer Schach, the spiritual leader of two small ultra-orthodox religious parties. Labour needs the parties support to secure a majority in the 120-member parliament.

In his speech Monday night, Schach sharply attacked the centre-left Labour Party, saying it had failed to keep Israel on the path of Judaism.

Labour has severed the link, severed itself from the Torah, from the Sabbath and the past, the 93-year-old Schach told 12,000 cheering, black-hatted followers in a Tel Aviv basketball stadium.

Political analysis said Schach's remarks made it unlikely that the ultra-orthodox Degel Hatorah and Shas parties loyal to Schach would leave the Likud camp and join a Peres-led government.

Both Labour and Likud claim the support of 60 members of parliament. To break the tie, Peres needs to win over at least one of the six legislators from Shas and two from Degel Hatorah.

"If it is true what the commentators are saying, we basically have to hold new elections," Peres told Israel Radio.

He added, however, that he would continue his efforts to form a new government.

But caretaker Prime Minister



Rabbi Eliezer Schach gestures emphatically during his speech in Tel Aviv Monday

Yitzhak Shamir, head of Likud, told reporters Tuesday that he felt Likud stood a good chance of forming the next government and that he opposed early elections.

"I don't think it's healthy for a country to hold elections in such short periods of time," Shamir said. The last elections were a year and a half ago.

Labour Party Chairman Micha Harish also issued a warning that new elections might be needed.

"The mood in the Labour Party is — and this has been my view for some time — that if we get into deadlock... the other option is to go to elections," Harish told Israel Radio.

Peres has up to five more weeks to form a government.

Harish said if Peres could not gain support from smaller parties to secure a majority in the Knesset, Israel should hold its second national election in two years.

"The Labour Party then prefers to give to the people of Israel the decision on what should be the future of this country," Harish said.

The party chairman, reflecting the broad Labour centre, said

voters would choose between starting peace talks with Palestinians or a continuing deadlock under a right-wing government headed by Shamir.

Labour quit Shamir's broad coalition government two weeks ago because of his rejection of a U.S. proposal for talks with Palestinians in Cairo. He was subsequently defeated in parliament on the same issue.

Labour has promised to begin the Cairo talks quickly, hoping they would end the 27-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Coalition negotiations could be called off any time there is a parliamentary majority for holding early elections. The next regularly scheduled vote is in the fall of 1992.

In related development, politicians from the left and right found themselves in rare agreement Tuesday in anger over Schach's remarks denouncing the secular life-style of kibbutzim, Israel's communal agricultural settlements.

Kibbutzim are held in high

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Arafat: Israelis stalling for time against Palestsinians

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Tuesday that Israel's political leaders were stalling over formation of a new government in an effort to gain time against the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I expected this," the PLO chairman told a news conference. "From the very beginning they are trying to win time."

Referring to Israel's internal political turmoil following a no-confidence vote against Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and efforts by Shimon Peres to form a new government, Arafat said: "To resign or not to resign, to go to elections or not to go to elections: This will continue, and in the end we will raise our flag — the flag of Palestine on territory now held by Israel."

Arafat said after the news conference he thought Peres, who has indicated a willingness to begin some sort of dialogue on the Palestinian question, would win the Israeli power struggle.

"I think he will have a slight majority," he said. Asked if a Peres victory would make it easier to start peace talks, Arafat

gave a slight nod. "But I don't want to say anything now," he said.

During the half-hour news conference, Arafat criticised American senators who last week adopted a resolution that said Jerusalem is and should remain the "capital of Israel."

"This is one resolution, like other resolutions, that the Congress has been adopting without really studying as they should," he said.

"This is not a challenge for me only. This is a challenge for (U.S. President George) Bush, also, who said Israel should not have the right to settle new Jews in East Jerusalem as East Jerusalem is occupied territory," Arafat said.

Arafat said the United States was partly to blame for the flood of Soviet Jews to Israel and the possibility of them settling in the West Bank.

The doors for immigration have been closed for these immigrants in America and in other countries, he said.

Referring to the revolt against Indian rule in Kashmir, which is claimed by both predominantly

Hindu India and Islamic Pakistan, Arafat said the two countries were friendly neighbours who should find a peaceful solution.

He said there was no comparison between Kashmir and Palestine. Palestine, he said, is a "question of democracy, not religion."

The PLO chief came to India to receive the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for Peace and International Understanding. The award is named for India's first prime minister.

During his visit, Arafat met Prime Minister V.P. Singh, whose National Front coalition government took office last December, and with the opposition Congress Party leader, ex-Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

On Wednesday, Arafat is to fly to Calcutta to meet Mother Teresa, winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize. In 1982, at the height of the Israeli siege of west Beirut where Arafat and his fighters were trapped, the frail Roman Catholic nun braved the war to rescue mentally retarded children from a hospital near the front lines.

Muslims begin Ramadan

CAIRO (R) — Muslims begin the holy month of Ramadan this week to meet one of the five sacred tenets of Islam.

"This is a holy month which requires all Muslims to take stock of their conduct. It is a period for repressing lust and desire," Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs Ali Fakir said in an eve-of-Ramadan statement Monday.

More than half the countries of the Arab World began the annual fast Tuesday. Others wait for the sighting of the new moon and were expected to begin Wednesday.

In some countries it is a time of great celebration, with feasts of delicacies replacing everyday fare when the daily fast is broken as the sun goes down.

In Egypt, normally crowded streets turn eerily quiet during the day until a single cannon shot from the citadel in central Cairo echoes across the city to mark the end of the fast.

Streets lit with gaily-coloured lanterns fill with people feasting until the early hours.

Just before dawn, men walk

the streets beating drums to remind people to take that last sip of water, that last mouthful of food or last cigarette before the fast starts again.

The fast is one of the five pillars of Islam, along with a pledge to God and the Prophet Muhammad, giving alms to the poor, praying five times a day and making a pilgrimage to Mecca.

North Yemen was the first Islamic country to announce the sighting of the new moon and along with South Yemen began Ramadan Tuesday.

Saudi Arabia, home of the holiest Islamic shrines, also began Ramadan Tuesday, along with Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Algeria.

Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Oman, Turkey and Iran will start Ramadan Wednesday.

Morocco, the farthest west in the Arab World and always the

last country to start, will begin Wednesday night.

Despite use of telescopes and the aid of astronomers to scan the sky for the new moon, countries still cannot agree on the start of Ramadan. Each country wants to sight the moon for itself rather than accept what others see.

Adherence to Islamic strictures during Ramadan varies from country to country. All practising Muslims deny themselves food, liquid, sex and cigarettes during daylight hours. Children over the age of eight are also required to fast.

Offices tend to open later and close earlier. Many cafes and restaurants close during the day. Nightclubs shut for the month. Enforcement also varies. In countries like Egypt individuals make their own decision on whether to observe Ramadan. In Saudi Arabia people can be whipped and jailed for breaking the fast.

In Baghdad, President Saddam Hussein banned any form of open violation and imposed a round-the-clock closure of nightclubs, discotheques, bars and shops which sell alcohol.



Jimmy Carter

Carter: U.S. not pushing Israel enough

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter said Tuesday he does not think the United States has pushed Israel too hard to negotiate with Palestinians on a Middle East peace settlement.

"I think our government ought to use its maximum influence — not pressure — in Israel and the other countries as well as to go to the bargaining table to find peace," Carter told reporters after emerging from a 35-minute meeting with President George Bush at the White House.

The United States has been pressing the Israelis to open talks with the Palestinians. The Israeli coalition government recently fell, not long after Bush stirred a controversy by criticising the settlement of Soviet Jews in Arab Jerusalem.

"I think what President Bush has expressed is a policy that's been our government's ... for the last 25 years," said the former president, just back from his latest trip to the Middle East.

"I was very encouraged with this trip in spite of the uncertainty about the Israeli government," Carter told reporters. "I think that there is a general acceptance now that a comprehensive peace is not only necessary but I think inevitable."

CAEU

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Ibrahim dismissed the charges and said the council was "at the forefront of Arab institutions in the field of Arab economic integration." He said the council "achieved many successes including the decision to establish the Arab common market and organising trade relations among member states and setting up joint Arab companies, in addition to establishing unions and issuing studies and research which formed the basis for bilateral and multilateral agreements signed among Arab states."

Ibrahim said Kuwait's contribution to the council amounted to 23.73 per cent of the annual budget (\$218,000) and for the past four years, Kuwait did not pay its share of the budget. He said that if 1990 is included, Kuwait would have to pay \$1.6 million in arrears.

Lebanese flock to embassies in biggest emigration wave of war

By Diana Abdallah
Reuter

NICOSIA — "There is no more respect for human beings. We are all treated like dogs in Lebanon. There is no more hope," said Tony Aoun.

Aoun, a 25-year-old computer science graduate is one of thousands of Lebanese who are leaving everything behind to seek new homes and a new life. Mostly in Canada and the United States, in the worst wave of emigration in 15 years of civil war.

"The war is making our children crazy, they deserve a better life," said Dalal Kayali, waiting at the Canadian immigration office in Nicosia.

She and 34 members of her family want to leave Lebanon. Lebanese university graduates, students and families are crowding the U.S. and Canadian missions in Nicosia and the Syrian capital, Damascus, sometimes keeping nightlong vigils and waiting for days for their turn to apply for visas.

Most say the past year of Lebanon's worst-ever violence has destroyed their dream of peace for their country.

Officials in Lebanon estimate that 400,000 people from all religious communities and political factions out of a population of around three

million want to emigrate.

Canada opened a temporary immigration office in Nicosia in May 1989 to deal with the rush of Lebanese, who flock there in their hundreds every day and shuttle between Beirut and Cyprus for months to get a final answer to their applications.

Exhausted and bored, they sit around tables in an underground car park converted into a waiting room, for their turn.

They talk about their homes damaged in shelling, their friends who were killed in the violence and their reasons for abandoning their country.

Most don't know what awaits them in Canada, but say they are so desperate they do not care.

"At least there is water and electricity there. Our children won't wake up crying because of the shelling," said the chain-smoking Kayali, as she told of the fighting and the killings in her Christian neighbourhood of Ashrafieh in Beirut.

The surge in emigration has caused alarm in Lebanon where the Maronite Christian Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir has appealed to Lebanese to stay.

The Maronite bishop in Cyprus, Butros Gemayel, warned that emigration "is not only draining the country of the old,

but also the young men and families."

"It is a shame that our young men rush to Cyprus and sit there like those in a zoo without respect or dignity to get a visa," he said.

But many Lebanese say there is nothing left for them in their country.

"If they want us to stay, the least they could do is allow us a decent life," said Aoun.

Robert Orr, chief counsellor at the Canadian immigration office, said the office received about 200 applications a day. Last month it issued 400 permits to Lebanese, mostly families.

Western embassies are usually cautious about granting visas to Lebanese following terrorist attacks in Europe and the kidnapping and killing of foreigners in Beirut.

For Lebanese, mass emigration is not a new phenomenon. Hundreds of thousands left in 1860 after bloody clashes between the country's Druze and Christian communities.

Thousands left during World War I, swelling communities already established in Africa, Latin America and Europe.

A deep economic crisis has also prompted thousands to seek employment in Gulf

countries.

Young men say they used to criticise their friends who left before them, but an inter-Christian war which flared in January was the last blow to any hopes they had for their country.

Nabil Barakat, a 22-year-old economics student, said he decided to leave when he was beaten by militiamen of one Lebanese faction for sympathising with a rival group.

"Our leaders have led us to destruction," he said.

"I don't want to hang around in Lebanon to see whether I will survive or not," said a 26-year-old man surrounded by a group of contemporaries who nodded their approval.

"Our society has disintegrated, there is no place anymore for young educated people... I am 26 years old and have not yet achieved anything in my life," he added.

"We stayed thinking we will get a chance to rebuild our country, but it was like loving a woman who did everything in her power to drive you away," another man said.

"At least when you work hard and you build a house and a business, you know you won't be destroyed by shelling. They will last."

U.N. chief arrives in Aqaba on private visit

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Iran continues to flood portions of the area, Perez de Cuellar said. Iran's flooding near its southern front with Iraq led to the deadliest shelling to erupt since the ceasefire took effect.

The flooding turns the marshy region into swampland, making it impassable to Iraqi tanks or armoured vehicles, U.N. military observers say.

The U.N. chief's report said international observers have prevented renewed confrontation over the flooding, but Perez de Cuellar listed it as a key concern.

Moroccan mission

In Algeria earlier Tuesday, Perez de Cuellar said he had made progress in solving the 15-year-old Western Sahara dispute during a regional tour.

"In a sense we have made a certain progress," he told reporters after talks designed to advance the holding of a referendum on the future of the former Spanish colony, claimed by both Morocco and Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas.

"But there are still problems that we must try to resolve as soon as possible. It is a slow process."

Both sides have agreed to hold the referendum on independence or absorption into Morocco under U.N. auspices, but they disagree on whether Moroccan troops, administrators and settlers should withdraw first.

Perez de Cuellar met Algerian President Chadli Benjedid Tuesday after earlier talks with Morocco's King Hassan and Polisario Secretary General Mohammed Abdel Aziz.

The U.N. chief declined to say what the two sides latest positions were.

U.N. launches relief plan for south Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — The United Nations has launched a \$120-million relief programme for more than four million Sudanese, but still has to overcome objections by rebels who have fought the government for seven years.

Michael Priestley, director of the U.N. relief programme Operation Lifeline Sudan, said Monday 104,000 tonnes of food was needed for about 4.5 million southerners displaced or affected by civil war.

He told a conference in Khartoum of government officials, the United Nations and donor nations that the operation would try to meet the needs of 2.23 million people in the south, 400,000 refugees in northern Sudan and 1.8 million displaced in Khartoum.

He said refugees in Khartoum were not catered for in the first phase of Operation Lifeline when some 107,000 tonnes of aid was delivered to the south in 1989.

The Khartoum refugees had little access to schools, health facilities or drinking water, he added.

He said the amount of food to be delivered to the south had not

been decided because the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) had objected to a U.N. proposal allocating more food to government-held areas.

The United Nations provisionally agreed with Sudan's military junta to deliver 50,000 tonnes to areas held by the government, 26,000 tonnes to refugees in Khartoum, 16,000 tonnes to rebel areas and to keep 12,000 tonnes in reserve.

The SPLA has told Priestley in Addis Ababa that it would not allow relief flights to the south until more aid was allocated to areas under its control.

It said the conference in Khartoum would be meaningless because rebels could not attend, but said it was ready to discuss the distribution figure to get the relief operation underway before spring rains began.

Priestley said he would soon meet the SPLA to seek its approval for the U.N. plan, which would include rebuilding schools and health centres and provision of cattle, water supplies, vaccinations, seeds, tools and fishing gear.

Bush pays tribute to ADC

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. President George Bush has paid tribute to the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) for its "outstanding job of serving Arab-Americans." In a message he sent to an ADC conference this week, Bush said: "I am pleased to extend warm greetings to all those gathered in Arlington, Virginia, for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's National Convention. My heartfelt congratulations on your tenth anniversary. When the founding fathers established this great union over two hundred years ago, they spoke eloquently of the dignity and worth of each individual and of our right to equality before the law. Abraham Lincoln reaffirmed these principles at Gettysburg, when he reminded us of the precious heritage given to us when 'our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.' Today we know that it is up to each of us to demonstrate that a nation 'so conceived and so dedicated' can not only endure through the ages, but prosper as well. That is why your efforts to uphold the rights of Arab-Americans, and to eliminate prejudice, discrimination, and stereotyping whenever they occur, are so important. Your organisation has done an outstanding job of serving Arab-Americans and promoting equal opportunity for all our citizens. During the past decade, your efforts to foster increased dialogue and cooperation between Arab and Jewish groups, both here and in the Middle East, have likewise reflected great dedication and vision. I commend you for all you have done and encourage you to keep up your good work."

Jordan Times

Tel. 667171

Hungarian airline stops flights to Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Hungary's state airline Malev suspended flights to Beirut after threats by pro-Iranian Muslim extremists to attack airlines carrying Soviet Jews to Israel, airport sources said Tuesday.

They said Malev told authorities at Beirut International Airport that its flights to the Lebanese capital were halted until further notice. Malev gave no reason for its action.

The sources said they believed Malev acted in response to threats last week by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine (IJLP), believed to be holding three Americans hostage in Lebanon, to attack airlines taking Soviet Jews to Israel.

Malev insisted Monday it would not reverse its decision of last week to stop transporting Soviet Jewish emigrants to Israel via Budapest because of the threats.

The IJLP, one of several Iranian-backed underground Shiite groups suspected of holding 17 Western hostages in Lebanon, have vowed to prevent the mass exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Arabs fear many of the immigrants will settle in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, where Palestinians want to create their own state.

Israeli officials, expecting 100,000 Soviet Jewish immigrants this year and as many as 750,000 over the next five or six years,

have been extremely concerned at the virtual closure of Budapest as a transit point.

There are no direct flights between Israel and the Soviet Union, and Budapest is the major connection point.

Malev said Tuesday it was discussing with Soviet and Israeli airlines how to soften the impact of its ban on flying Soviet Jews to Israel.

Ferenc Urban, Malev's marketing director, said the airline was sticking to last week's decision to impose the ban.

But he said Malev was ready to provide ground support to the Soviet carrier Aeroflot and Israel's El Al in Budapest. "Negotiations are under way at

the moment. It's very important for us to have such a mess cleared up," Urban said.

"The suggestion is that they have to solve the problem, through Budapest if possible... but we would help in this with ground-handling, processing and so on," he said.

He confirmed Malev had suspended flights to Beirut but said the decision was prompted by lack of security in Lebanese airspace.

Poland offered Monday to increase its flights to Israel to accommodate Soviet Jewish emigrants and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has also pledged to find alternative routes.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Soviet plane crashes in Kabul

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet transport plane crashed Tuesday as it approached Kabul airport in Afghanistan, TASS news agency said. The Ilyushin-76 Aeroflot, carrying non-military supplies, crashed about noon, the report said. The fate of the crew was not known.

Thai police arrest murder suspect

BANGKOK (R) — Thai police Tuesday arrested a Thai Muslim suspected of involvement in the murders of three Saudi diplomats here on Feb. 1. National police chief Sawang Thinsawat said witnesses identified Suchart Herabi as being one of the gunmen who shot Saudi consul Abdullah Al Beari and two embassy officials outside their Bangkok residences. Sawang told reporters that Herabi, a Muslim from southern Patani province near the Malaysian border, had given himself up to police after being tailed by investigators for several weeks. The arrest was the first breakthrough in the case. Thai police have yet to establish the motive for the killings. Sawang said police were tracking more suspects but declined to give details.

Chad reports border attack

NDJAMENA (R) — Chad said Monday Libyan-backed guerrillas attacked two government garrisons on the eastern border with Sudan. A statement issued after an emergency meeting of the cabinet chaired by President Hissene Habre said "Libyan Islamic Legion" forces attacked the villages of Bahai and Tine, near the Chad-Tunisia border. It gave no details of casualties nor of the size of the invading force, but said fierce fighting was continuing. The statement also accused Sudan of "aiding with the enemy" and vowed to destroy "all bases of the Islamic Legion and Libyan mercenaries." Chad recently accused members of the Islamic Legion of fighting with Chad troops near the western Sudanese province of Darfur. Chad and Libya have fought several wars over a stretch of desert seized by Tripoli in 1973. They

agreed in August 1989 to settle their claim to the Aouzou Strip within a year.

S. Yemen, Oman to sign border pact

ABU DHABI (R) — South Yemen and Oman will soon sign an agreement to demarcate their borders, and a frontier pact with Saudi Arabia was also possible, South Yemen's ambassador to Muscat was quoted as saying. The United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Khaleej reported Tuesday Mohammad Omar Bassad as saying most major differences were resolved during President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas's visit to Oman in October, 1988. "The near future will see the final signing of a border agreement," the ambassador was quoted as saying. South Yemen also has a longstanding border dispute with Saudi Arabia but Bassad said a solution was possible, "if there are good intentions based on mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs," he said.

Ethiopian rebels to release six Cubans

KHARTOUM (AP) — An Ethiopian rebel group has agreed to release six Cuban military officers captured in January during fighting with Ethiopian government troops, Foreign Minister Ali Sahlool said. In a press statement issued Monday, Sahlool said the Sudanese government had succeeded in mediating the release of the Cubans being held by the Oromo Liberation Front. He gave no information about the condition of the Cubans nor when or where they would be released. The six medical workers were reported missing in early January. The Cuban embassy in Ethiopia said four of them were taken prisoner by Ethiopian rebels and Sudanese army troops alleged to have been aiding them. It said it did not know what happened to the other two. The embassy said they disappeared during fighting around the western town of Asosa near Ethiopia's border with Sudan.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30.....Korne

15:40.....Programme review

15:45.....Children's programme

17:30.....Educational programme

18:00.....News summary in Arabic

18:30.....Cairo news message

19:30.....Local programme

20:00.....News in Arabic

20:30.....Arabic series

21:30.....Arabic programme

22:00.....News in Arabic

23:40.....Play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00.....Documentary

19:00.....News in French

19:15.....Varieties

19:30.....News in Hebrew

20:00.....News in Arabic

20:30.....Latin and Disorder

21:00.....Documentary

22:00.....News in English

22:30.....Guts and Glory

PRAYER TIMES

04:00.....Fajr

05:26.....Dhuhr (Sunnite) Duhr

11:41.....Dhuhr

13:41.....'Asr

17:54.....Maghrib

19:16.....Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrassins Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Armenian Church Tel. 625383

62543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Raphael Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 64932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Another rise in temperatures will occur and winds will be northerly to moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly fresh and sea calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 61/22

Agaba 14/20

Deir 8/23

Jordan Valley 10/26

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Agaba 27. Humidity readings: Amman 26 per cent, Agaba 17 per cent.

ZARQA

Dr. Mubashir Hijawi (—)

Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 893790

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 665800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 891467

Complaints 891467

Amman Municipality 787111

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101

Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 663881

Company 663881

RJ Flight Information 06-33200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hadith Medical Centre 81381332

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 6428516

Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn 6424412

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malhot, J. Amman 636140

Palatrin, Shamsal 6641714

Student Hospital 669131

University Hospital 645945

Al-Munther Hospital 6672279

The Islamic, Abadi 66612737

Al-Ahli, Abadi 6661646

Italian, Al-Mubarek 7771015

Al-Badr, J. Ashrafieh 7751102

Army, Macha 89161175

Queen Alia Hospital 6624030

Amal Hospital 674135

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983332

Zarqa National Hospital (09)970171

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)988732

IBRD:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)755555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)772275

Ibn Al Nadhes Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (09)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)33200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:40.....London (RJ)

11:45.....Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

12:00.....Riyadh (RJ)

12:15.....Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

12:45.....Agaba, Cairo (RJ)

16:45.....Agaba, Agaba (RJ)

17:45.....Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

18:00.....Beirut, Alia Dhabi (RJ)

18:30.....New Delhi (RJ)

18:30.....Montreal, New York (RJ)

17:00.....Riyadh (RJ)

17:20.....Brussels, Paris (RJ)

17:40.....Vienna, Belgrade (RJ)

17:55.....London, Frankfurt (RJ)

18:00.....Madrid, Rome (RJ)

18:40.....Chicago, New York, Vienna (RJ)

18:45.....Cairo (RJ)

19:15.....Agaba (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20.....Dahab (AZ)

05:00.....Jeddah (SV)

18:45.....Cairo (MS)

18:55.....Baghdad (IA)

19:00.....Sana'a (JY)

19:00.....Paris, Damascus (AP)

MARKET PRICES

Uppefower price in \$/kg

Apples 480/440

Bananas 420/350

Beans (Maksum) 400/350

Beans 1100/800

Cabbage 80/40

Carrot 170/120

Cauliflower 200/220

Corn (large) 230/180

Corn (small) 430/380

Dates 520/470

Fig 220/240

Garlic 700/600

Onion (green) 260/220

Onion (white) 310/260

Pepper (large) 100/150

Pepper (small) 100/150

Quince (green) 300/250

Quince (white) 270/220

Oranges 180/140

Orange 310/260

Orange (Shamouti) 320/260

Pepper (hot) 900/800

Pepper (sweet) 530/450

Potato 240/200

Raddish 130/100

Sage 350/300

Spinach 160/120

Tomatoes 330/280

Win some, lose some; you can't please all the people all the time

Parliament adjourns after winning freedoms

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuters

AMMAN — Jordan's new parliament went into recess Tuesday after four months in which it consolidated democratic changes but disappointed voters who thought it could work economic miracles.

"People want freedom but they also want economic recovery and progress," Arab nationalist deputy Salim Zoubi told Reuters. "Many of them feel democracy has not brought them either. They are worried by rising food prices and our inability to help."

Lower House Speaker Salehman Arar said the assembly had asked His Majesty King Hussein to convene an extraordinary session after the Holy Month of Ramadan, which begins Tuesday, to catch up on a backlog of work on legislation.

The 80-seat House, dominated by Muslim fundamentalists, was chosen in November in Jordan's first parliamentary elections in 22 years. The King

agreed to elections after April price riots showed people had lost confidence in the government.

The new House has persuaded the government to grant many of the political freedoms demanded during the election campaign, and in return has backed an austerity plan agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Last week the House opened the sensitive dossier of government corruption and many deputies say they want to pursue their investigation no matter where it leads.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran has accepted the assembly's request to refer nine state contracts to the public prosecutor.

In a bizarre twist, Parliament turned on the local press for reporting the proceedings of a secret House session in which the nine contracts, and 19 others also under review, were named.

For the last two days local

journalists have refused to cover parliamentary affairs in protest to the criticism.

Deputies interviewed by Reuters said the performance of the new Parliament was reasonable but much had yet to be done.

"Given our short life span, we have achieved a lot since November," said Deputy Taher Al Masri, a former foreign minister.

"Apart from (progress on) freedoms, Parliament has managed to act as an independent branch of power in line with public demands," he said. "Now we have to focus on setting up political parties and try to improve our performance as legislators."

Abdul Latif Arabiyat, spokesman for the 22-member Muslim Brotherhood Bloc, said social changes, as well as legislation and democratic freedoms, were needed to remove deep-rooted corruption and administrative abuse.

"But the changes are in the

right direction because democratisation will help solve many of our problems," he said.

Since December the government has removed work and travel bans on political activists, returned confiscated passports, freed political detainees and eased controls on the media.

It has promised to scrap Martial Law, imposed in 1967, by June, and to abolish a 1985 defence law which gives security officials wide powers.

King Hussein has promised a national charter that would set guidelines for multi-party political life and officials say he will soon appoint a Royal commission to write it.

Parliament has found it easier to win political concessions than to come up with solutions to economic difficulties.

Jordan is struggling with an \$8-billion foreign debt, 20 per cent unemployment and inflation of 26 per cent in 1989.

"The problems challenging

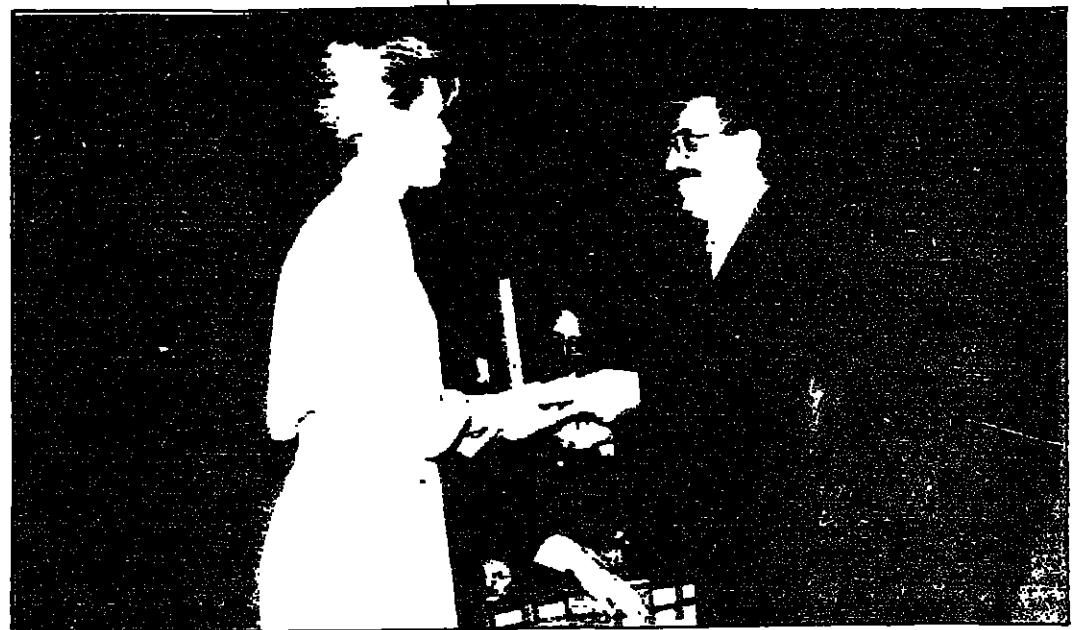
us cannot be solved in four months," said leftist deputy Deeb Marji. "Parliament, government, regime and people are all in the same boat."

Some deputies said the absence of political parties and the inexperience of some members made debates clumsy, and complained that they had no money to hire research staff.

The Parliament devoted much time to debates on whether to vote confidence in the government and the 1990 budget, but passed relatively little legislation.

"Some deputies who never held a political or administrative position understood democracy as the right to say anything without regard to the consequences," said Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Baki Gammo, a deputy since 1956.

"But deputies are gradually acquiring experience, facing reality and understanding that their role is limited to legislation," he said.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday presents a Jordan Artist Association's efforts to honour the Jordanian artist, with an award as part of the Kingdom's artists (Petra photo)

Jordan honours artists

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday patronised a ceremony held by the Jordanian Artists Association (JAA) on the occasion of the International Theatre Day to honour pioneering artists in Jordan.

Addressing the celebration, JAA President Mahmoud Al Ziyoudi reviewed the development of the theatre in Jordan and noted the great contributions made by Jordanian artists to va-

rious Arab artistic festivals. Ziyoudi called for approving the JAA's law after endorsement by the Parliament. He also called for covering Jordanian artists with medical insurance, social security and pension schemes.

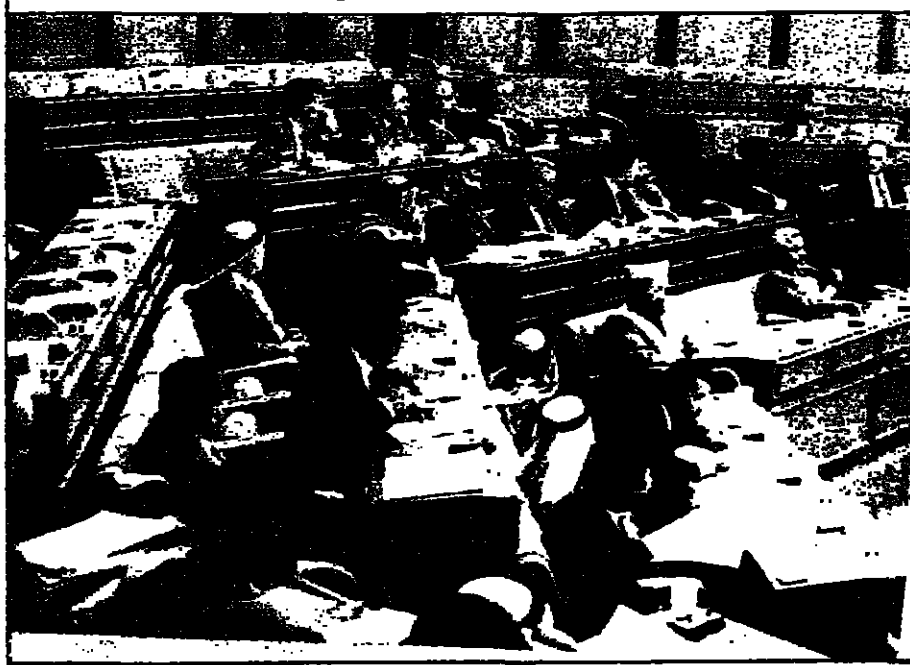
The celebration included a pantomime performance in honour of the Queen.

At the end of the ceremony, Queen Noor presented certificates of appreciation and awards

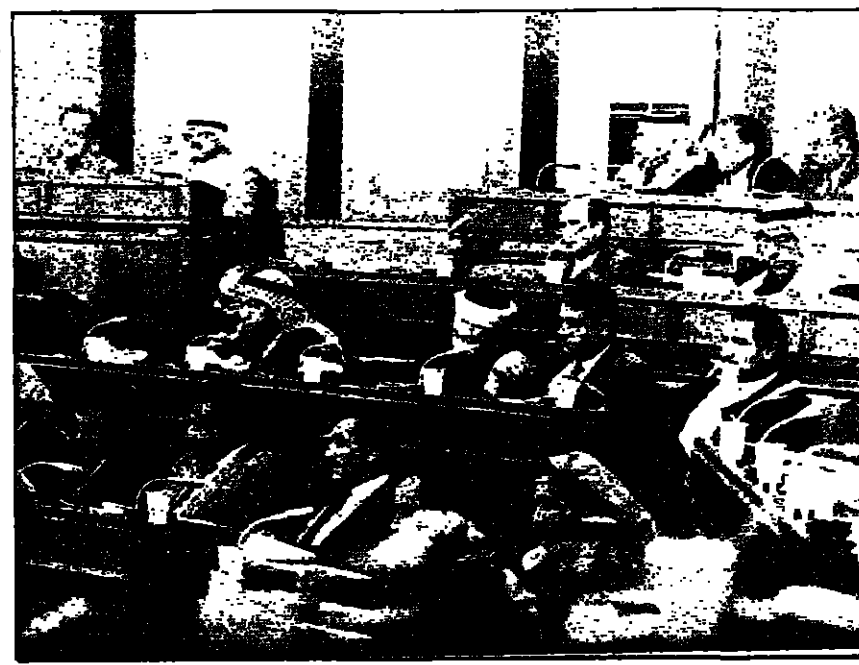
to 22 pioneering artists, including the parents of two deceased artists, in recognition of their contribution to the advancement of theatre in Jordan.

The ceremony was attended by the information and culture ministers, and the chairman and members of the JAA.

To mark the occasion, the Ministry of Culture will organise a play at Usama Al Mashini Theatre Wednesday.



The Lower House of Parliament, elected Nov. 8, has made much headway in winning public freedoms but little has been achieved in the way of parliamentary action towards addressing the root problems of the national economy



Agreements signed for schools, civil centres

AMMAN (Petra) — The Urban Development Department (UDD) Tuesday signed two agreements with local construction firms worth JD 2,114,342 to carry out construction work at Ruseifa and Aqaba.

UDD Director-General, Hisham Al Zaghra said that one of the projects at Ruseifa entails building several schools totalling an area of 15,800 square metres, a health centre of 510 square metres, a civil defence centre of 1,155 square metres and a community centre of 510 square metres.

He said that the projects at

Ruseifa were expected to be completed by the end of 1990.

The second agreement covers work at the Shallah district in Aqaba where a boys' school will be built with an area of 3,150 square metres, a project which will be completed by the middle of 1991, Zaghra said.

"The UDD carried out a housing estate at Ruseifa in 1988. It is now inhabited by 15,000 residents who will benefit from the schools and the other projects," Zaghra said.

Zaghra and the managers of the two construction firms signed the agreements at the UDD head office in Amman.

Qasem, Abed Rabbo discuss developments, Soviet immigration

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Tuesday held talks with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo on the latest developments in the Palestinian problem and the consequences of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Qasem reiterated Jordan's full support for the PLO's efforts to regain the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination.

Abed Rabbo, head of the Department of Information of the PLO, is on a visit to Jordan for talks on coordination in the information strategies of Jordan and the PLO. He told the Jordan Times Monday that agreement had been reached on a four-point plan of action in this regard.

His Majesty King Hussein received Abed Rabbo Monday. The PLO official delivered a message from PLO

Chairman Yasser Arafat to the King and voiced appreciation of the cooperation in the fields of information and culture between Jordan and the PLO. In the meeting, Abed Rabbo conveyed to the King the Palestinian people's pride in Jordan's democratisation process and said that he felt that the process was also appreciated by the entire Arab World, Petra reported.

Abed Rabbo, who is accompanied by two other officials from the PLO's Department of Information, has already held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Saleh Masa'adeh, Information Minister Ibrahim Izzeddin and Minister of Culture Khalid Al Karaki.

The Jordan-PLO coordination in information, primarily aimed at influencing Israeli public opinion in favour of peace and strengthening the 27-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories, came upon the initiative of the Kingdom.

Peres: Either me or polls

(Continued from page 1)

esteem in Israeli society.

"There are kibbutzim that don't know what Yon Kippur is or the Sabbath... and they raise (non-kosher) rabbits and pigs," Schach said Monday night. "Do they have any links with their forefathers?"

Peres Tuesday defended the kibbutzim, who constitute the core of Labour support, even though he muted his criticism of Schach in an apparent effort not to alienate the rabbi.

"This is not the sum total of what the kibbutzim have done in this country," Peres said, referring to Schach's remarks. "They built the land, they settled it..." Yossi Sarid of the leftist Citizens Rights Movement argued that ultra-orthodox Jews, most of whom are exempt from army service, have done little for Israel.

Facilities in place for transit pilgrims

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Al Faqr returned to Amman Tuesday following a visit to Turkey where he discussed matters related to facilities offered to Turkish Muslims on their way to perform pilgrimage in Mecca through Jordan.

The Turks are usually housed at a pilgrims camp near the northern border city of Ramtha upon their arrival by land from Syria. The camp has been provided with all essential services.

Faqr said in a statement upon his return that he signed the minutes of an agreement with the head of religious affairs in Turkey providing for administrative and health services for the Turkish pilgrims upon passing through Jordan.

In return for these services and the assignment of a plot of land for Turkish vehicles to park on, the Turkish government will pay JD 4 for each Turkish pilgrim and pilgrims from Turkey could be housed at the pilgrims camps in Ramtha on Maan," Faqr said.

In addition the Jordanian authorities will provide facilities for the medical missions accompanying the Turkish pilgrims at the two camps and will refer cases if need be to Jordanian hospitals, with the cost of the medical treatment to be covered by the Turkish government," Al Faqr said.

As for Turkish pilgrims travelling by air, the minister said discussion with the Turkish officials covered the prospect of transporting the pilgrims aboard the Royal Jordanian planes, but further discussion was needed on this project.

ACC to establish holding company

AMMAN (J.T.) — Participants in the third conference of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) chambers of industry, concluded a three-day meetings in Sanaa and adopted a number of decisions aimed at enhancing industrial cooperation among the four ACC member states — Jordan, Iraq, North Yemen and Egypt.

The conference, which was chaired by Khaldoun Abu Hassan, chairman of the Higher Council of the ACC Federations of Chambers of Industry and president of Amman Chamber of Industry, approved the formation of an ACC holding industrial company and endorsed the amendments proposed to its statute.

Participants also called for enacting a unified Arab investment law for encouraging invest-

ment in the four countries. Towards achieving this end, the conference has set up a five-member committee, grouping representatives from the four ACC states. The committee was entrusted with studying the investments laws in the four respective countries and working out a unified law that will be applicable to these countries.

The conference also approved the convening of a specialised symposium on promotion and development of exports in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The symposium will be held in Amman from Sept. 17-25.

The conference also decided to hold an Arab industrial conference for the ACC countries in Baghdad before the end of 1990.

Palestine envoy slams Soviet Jewish immigration

ZARQA (Petra) — Palestine Ambassador to Jordan Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim delivered a lecture in Zarqa Monday. In the lecture he tackled the question of Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine, describing it as part of a Zionist plan to evict the Arab population of Palestine and settle Jews in their place.

The lecture was delivered in the course of a Palestine National Week designed to gather support for the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

"The occupation authorities pursue plans to flood the Arab territories with Jews and set up settlements to absorb them,"

Abdul Rahim said. "The intifada, now in its third year, has succeeded in adversely affecting the Israeli economy which is heavily supported by the United States," he said.

Calling for further support for the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, the ambassador said the Palestinians hope they can return to their homeland in Palestine and set up an independent state.

The ambassador praised Jordanian-Palestinian relations and His Majesty King Hussein's support for the endeavours of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

King receives cables of good wishes

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received cables at the start of the fasting month of Ramadan, wishing him continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity. The cables came from King Hassan of Morocco, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, United Arab Emirates President Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifah Bin Hamad Al Thani, Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Qayyum, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Syrian President Hafiz Al Asad, North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and South Yemeni President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas.

Mhellan announces new measures

AMMAN (Petra) — The chief Islamic justice office announced Tuesday that it had embarked on measures to implement directives passed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan during his last week's visit and meeting with Chief Justice Mohammad Mhellan and other religious court members. A statement said that Sheikh Mhellan chaired a series of meetings designed to prepare the way for issuing a periodical on Muslim issues and organising seminars to be presented through Jordan Radio and Television. The seminars would be dealing with family matters and religion. The office will soon issue a handbook about various Islamic law applications and research in religious fields.

3 killed in accidents in 1 week

AMMAN (Petra) — Three people were killed and 127 others were injured in 273 car accidents which took place in various parts of the Kingdom between March 17 and 24. Last week's accidents registered an increase of 12.35 per cent over last week's accidents, according to police.

Soviet ship docks with 750 tourists

AQABA (J.T.) — A group of 750 tourists of various nationalities arrived in Aqaba Tuesday aboard a Soviet ship for a week-long visit to Jordan. The group will stay in Aqaba and will tour Wadi Rum and the Nabatean City of Petra among other archaeological and tourist sites in the south. The Soviet ship is one of four ships scheduled to dock at Aqaba in the coming few days bringing in more tourists on a week-long visit to the country. The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities has prepared a recreational programme for the visitors at Aqaba and other tourist areas. The Ministry of Tourism made the arrangement for the visits in cooperation with local tourist and travel offices. Ministry officials expect Aqaba to be visited by thousands of Finns and Germans.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of plastic artists Artj Al Hamed and Ibrahim Al Nahleh at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ Art exhibition by seven Iraqi artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition entitled "Spanish contemporary engravings" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ The spring exhibition of Bani Hamida women's weaving project at the Bani Hamida House - Jabal Amman, Rainbow Street.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Issam Tawawi at Alla Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of handicrafts and paintings at 'Al girl's charitable society.

THEATRE

- ★ Arabic children's play entitled "Al Shahed" (the witness) at the Royal Cultural Centre — 4:00 p.m.

SEMINAR

- ★ Seminar entitled "Crime and Society" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

Arar expects extraordinary session

(Continued from page 1)

Other newspapers followed suit Thursday.

Information Minister Ibrahim Izzeddin, who was not present at the House Monday, arrived later during the sit-in and asked journalists to return inside to cover the session. He argued that instead of boycotting the session, "You can write about it." He said that despite the committee's recommendation, "there is nothing that calls for abandoning the session. This is democracy and you should lobby for your rights."

Deputies Fakhr Kawa, Saleh Zoubi, Laith Shbeilat, Taher Masri, Ahmad Oweidi Abbadi, Hisham Sharani, Faris Nabulsi and Mohammad Aleim and Minister of Labour and Deputy Qasem Obeidat abandoned the session while it was in progress to try to mediate the return of journalists or to inquire about the cause of the protest. Arar also left the session to address the problem.

Arar said that the committee proposed to refer the case to the prosecutor general after failing to discover the sources that leaked the information. He said that "as long as the (press and publications) law is in place, anybody can seek prosecution of the press. This is a violation of the House's decisions and the law must take its course."

Two proposals, one by Deputy Abdulhadi Ensur suggesting that the House issue a press statement expressing "disarray" at the publication of secret session deliberations, and another by Deputy Fakhr Kawa to abandon the investigation, failed to gain a majority vote. Ensur's proposal received nine votes while Kawa's was supported by 14.

Attending the House's last session of the first cycle, journalists expressed disappointment with deputies, particularly Islamists who sought prosecution of the press. They pointed out that while the government and the judiciary did not seek a trial of the press, the House was taking the initiative to another press freedom.

Deputy Dheeb Marji supported Kawa's argument that the purpose of forming the committee was to investigate deputies who leaked information and not the press for publishing it. Shbeilat said seeking prosecution of the press "is none of our business. It is the business of the government and the attorney general, not the House. Whoever wants to investigate must investigate deputies, ministers and senators who attended the session. Other than that, it is not our business."

In the session deputy Broush, a member of the investigation com-

mittee, said the legislative branch "should not waver in its resolve to implement laws and regulations. Article 38-B of the publication law says that newspapers cannot publish anything about a secret session."

Dr. Abdul Latif Arabiyat, spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood bloc, supported Broush adding that "we are not against the press or any particular party, but this anarchy and chaos must be stopped... we should respect the House's decision."

Kawa, who is also a columnist for Al Ra'i, said that the recommendation by the five-member committee had no legal grounds and should be rejected because it had no mandate from the House to investigate the press.

He said that calling journalists for questioning was not sanctioned by the House which authorised the committee to investigate deputies to find out who leaked information to the press. Furthermore, Kawa said, the committee itself met without notifying six other members of the committee including himself, "and decided on their own to issue such a recommendation."

Kawa, a member of the leftist "Democratic bloc," announced his withdrawal from the committee and said that its status was illegal. "In any case," he added, "had I been notified to meet with

the committee, I would have insisted that the press has the right to publish all information that it can get, without revealing its sources, and as long as it is not acting against public interest."

Kawa said that calling Al Ra'i's editor-in-chief for questioning was "an interference by the House in the affairs of the press. The leak was made from within the House and the matter should be limited to the House. We should not go after scapegoats in other branches of authority and interfere in their work."

Islamic Brotherhood Deputy Youssef Azem said deputies "should not mix between democracy and anarchy."

"What happened is a slaughter of democracy with the sword of democracy for the sake of democracy," he told the House. "I see that the party to blame is that which leaked the information and not the one which published it."

Legal Committee Chairman Hussein Mjalli, said the House committee had no legal grounds in investigating the press. Some journalists, satisfied with assurances by deputies, returned to cover the remainder of the session, but newspaper editors later decided that not publishing the session's deliberations in their dailies the next morning was necessary to straightening out relations with the Lower House.

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Unfinished business

IT IS easy to sympathise with the call made by the Lower House of Parliament to convene a three-month extraordinary session starting May. The work load for the parliament is simply too great to be finished in two or three months' work a year. Judging by the number of deputies who have voiced support for the proposal of convening an extraordinary session, it would be difficult to deny the Parliament an added opportunity to work and serve their constituencies for a longer period of time this year. Some of the items on the agenda are indeed pressing and controversial. There is no way to deal with such a remaining heavy work load in a democratic context except through the extension of the parliamentary sessions over and over again. After all the members of the Parliament were elected and are being paid to serve the people of Jordan not periodically but perpetually. The first ordinary session of the Parliament which has lasted for no more than 3 months may not have been perfect in every sense of the word, but it was a good beginning. The momentum of this beginning must not be allowed to get frustrated by a long interruption. As the next ordinary session of the Parliament is set for October, there will be almost half a year of unreasonable break in parliamentary life. The unfinished business of the newly elected Parliament is simply too large and too important to be left in a state of suspended animation for such a long period. The truth is there might be good grounds now to facilitate the extension of the ordinary sessions of the Parliament to an extent that our parliamentarians would remain preoccupied with the concerns of their respective constituencies for at least nine months of the year. Granted governing the country with the Parliament continually in session becomes more difficult and much more demanding. But this is the price of operational democracy. As the country has opted for a viable democratic way of life, it would be difficult to explain the interruption of this much sought after democracy by denying parliamentarians longer periods of time serve the electorate.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

In its editorial Tuesday Al Ra'i daily discussed the current efforts to form an Israeli government, noting that what concerns the Arabs is not who will form a government but rather the Israeli leaders' orientation and whether they are inclined to make peace with the Arab Nation. The formation of a government is not a success in itself because both major parties, the Labour and the Likud, are merely concerned with their own interests no matter how long it takes to form a government and regardless of whether peace is achieved or not, the paper noted. It said that the Israelis are fond of playing the game of forming a government after strenuous efforts had been exerted and many difficulties had been overcome; and during the time of behind-the-scenes negotiations plans for setting up Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab lands are implemented. As long as Peres is totally relying on the religious and extremist parties to form a government, there is very little or no chance that his Labour Party will respect the international will or abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions that aim to achieve peace, simply because the extremists refuse such idea, the paper pointed out. There, it said, the only remaining feasible base for a successful government in Israel is through imposing the will of Zionism on the Arab Nation, and any attempt to depart from that policy can mean failure.

A columnist in Al Ra'i says that Jordan is craving for a new school of impeccable and clean politicians and statesmen who can operate the country's organisation with success. The people are not concerned with a mere exposition of names of those officials involved in corruption cases, but rather hope to have a political system that abides by democracy in word and in deed, Tareeq Masarweh writes. We are not trying to take revenge on individuals but we are trying to cleanse the political life in Jordan and rebuild confidence in the hearts of the Jordanian people and be able to deal with any future acts of corruption, and pillaging of the nation's wealth, the writer continues. The corrupt officials of Jordan, the writer notes, have created their own schools of thought that harbour enmity towards democracy and always trying to create crises between the regime and the people's forces and political groupings. He notes that these corrupt officials had always aimed to loot the country and sow seeds of corruption everywhere, a case that can be witnessed in many other developing countries which ended up being in deep debt and continually being ruled by martial law. Masarweh calls on the prosecutor general to study the cases fully and hear testimonies by numerous people before presenting his findings to the court that will try these officials, because the Jordanian people are seriously determined to pursue the road of democracy in all affairs.

Al Dastour daily on Tuesday voiced appreciation to the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran for its deep concern over the situation in the south and the ministers' visits to the governorates of Karak, Tafleh, and Maan to inspect the situation there. The paper said that the open discussion of various problems and requests by the local citizens and the government ministers is bound to help solve problems and enhance mutual confidence. Furthermore, the tour that lasted three days has no doubt given the ministers closer ideas about the economic and social situation and the areas which require immediate and urgent assistance. It said that the government is determined to extend all possible help to the local inhabitants as Prime Minister Badran promised and is now in a position to do so, especially as allocations have been made to launch income-generating projects and development schemes.

Economic Forum

Tax effort in Jordan is excessive

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

TAX effort measures how much taxpayers give in way of taxes compared to their ability to pay, or it is the proportion of tax proceeds to the taxable capacity. If the former are identical with the latter, the proportion is one or 100 points. This could be treated as an index, whereby the points above 100 measure the extent to which citizens are over-taxed. An index of 100 or more means that any additional taxes may undermine production incentives and surely trigger tax evasion or increase it.

Of course, taxes in this context must refer to direct and indirect taxes paid by households and corporation to both, the central government and local governments and any other taxes paid to other public or semi-public bodies such as the universities in the case of Jordan. Social security contributions are also included because they are deductions from income and constitute a burden on the taxpayers similar to that ensuing from any other taxes.

Determinants of taxable capacity. The taxable capacity of developed countries is markedly higher than that of developing countries. This entails a corresponding difference in methods employed to measure tax effort. There are a host of variables used to explain the variance in that effort. National income or per capita income are irrelevant because what matters is not average income distribution but income concentration. Through customs duties, imports of goods have a positive impact on the taxable capacity. Income generated in the mining sector has an analogous effect. The contrary is true of income generated in agriculture and wholesale and retail trade sectors. In most developing countries including Jordan agricultural income is tax-exempt. Domestic trade activities are characteristically undertaken by small units which do not keep records and whose incomes are thus not easy to identify and practically most

difficult to tax if they do not fall, in the first place, in income brackets which qualify for tax exemption.

High tax effort. I used the above analysis in my Ph.D. thesis to construct a regression equation for the measurement of tax effort. According to this equation, Jordan's tax effort in 1988 reached 98, that is two points short of its taxable capacity, which translates into only six million dinars. This meagre sum shows how much taxes are increaseable before they start to strain the economy. According to a different equation developed by IMF, the tax effort index in Jordan had already reached 148 point in that year.

The fact that our tax effort had already reached or exceeded the 100 mark is most annoying because it is taking place at a time when we are in dire need to raise taxes in order to phase out the budget deficit as envisaged in Jordan's agreement with IMF under the economic correction program.

The Lower House of Parliament is so adamant in opposing tax increases, given the wild jump of inflation during the last eighteen months and the consequential drop in real incomes. The very recent debate in the House indicates that the rift between the deputies and the government on taxation policies is so deep that only through a lot of lobbying and arm-twisting that it might be redressed in line with the stance of the government. This poses a formidable dilemma for the executive who never conceived, in the wildest of dreams, such an opposition when the amendments to the effective income tax legislation were drafted last autumn. But there is still a way out, even without income tax increases. This might need considerable vision and courage.

The way out. Agricultural income has been exempt from income tax throughout the history of Jordan. An income of JD 2,000 originating in other economic sectors must pay but

an income of say, JD 1 million emanating from agriculture is tax-exempt. This is an odd situation by all standards.

Once the agricultural income is created, its earner should have no objection to pay tax on it. Certainly, levying tax on agricultural incomes that exceed certain amounts is desirable under the present circumstances of economic stringency, at least until such circumstances change.

Customs duties. Levying higher tariff rates on imports is another outlet. It is particularly excellent because it does not only bring in more revenues but also protects domestic industries at a time when import substitution is badly needed. If they prohibit imports and thereby depress proceeds, high tariff will save foreign exchange and thus make more valuable contribution to economic adjustment. However, Jordan's accord with IMF prohibits the government from "imposing new import restrictions or intensifying existing ones for balance of payments reasons." This clause is sadly interpreted to mean that tariff rates must not be raised and no imports, whatsoever, must be banned. Actually this condition is a big black hole in that accord. The IMF should allow Jordan to get round it for one or two years and Jordan must work for that end.

Other outlets. Of course the best way out of the tax revenue impasse is to improve collection methods and combat tax evasion. This is easier said than done but not impossible in the longer run. The mistake that the amendments to the provisional tax law revealed was that our tax authorities had apparently believed that tax evasion could be tackled by decrees. Worse still, they believed that tax revenues could be boosted by higher taxes. They do not because they stimulate more tax evasion especially under high tax efforts.

Palestinian and Israeli youths join in dialogue

By Rosalind Mandine

WASHINGTON — Although some people may use the word "conflict" when talking about the Middle East, some Palestinian and Israeli youths in Israel and the West Bank are finding that "dialogue" is a better word. One organisation that is helping these youths join in dialogue and understanding is Legacy International, a non-profit private American educational organisation.

Legacy promotes reconciliation and dialogue by creating linkages between Arab and Jewish youths and teaching them how to communicate with each other. They do this by sponsoring outreach and education programmes, training in communication and conflict resolution and dialogue workshops. Founded in 1977, Legacy is based in Alexandria, Virginia, and has a regional office in Jerusalem.

Legacy bases its work on the idea that "there is an inherent value in intercultural learning and that there is a possibility for achieving a common ground of understanding through bringing youths together" in a learning environment, explained Martin

Tillman, Legacy's director for International Education Services.

Many of the Arab and Jewish youths involved in Legacy programmes have had little or no contact with each other in their daily lives.

Before attending Legacy's summer programme in the United States last year, Saar Peer, a Jew from Tivon and Samer Dajani, a Palestinian from the West Bank, had very little contact with or understanding of each other's communities. After their training, Dajani and Peer said they gained more of an understanding of each other's fears and points of view. Peer and Dajani plan to use the skills they acquired to promote peace between their communities, the young men told The Pittsburgh Press last summer.

One-to-one dialogue is especially important when a regional conflict appears to be "intractable in terms of resolution on a government-to-government basis," Tillman noted. Bringing individuals together for "face-to-face encounters" will achieve "a measure of interaction not conceivable" on a larger level, he said.

When it comes to politics,

Legacy is non-positional, Tillman stressed. The organisation does not ignore politics, he added, but it is not interested in trying to convince anyone that one side is better than another.

Young people who take part in Legacy programme are nominated by community organisations they already belong to, Tillman explained. These community groups are generally "engaged in dialogue and reconciliation," he added. This "self-selection" process contributes to Legacy's success in that these youths are "pre-disposed to interest in reconciliation and have already made some small steps in their own lives to understand, and interact with Arabs and Jews where they are living," he said.

Legacy takes dialogue one step further by providing training in communication and conflict resolution. In the Summer Leadership Training programme, a selected group of youths spend six weeks in Bedford, Virginia, developing and sharpening their skills in cross-cultural relations. The programme has grown to include young people from other parts of the world, such as Egypt, India, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Yemen, Nicaragua, Honduras, Ireland, and Cambodia.

An extension of this programme is the summer tour, in which Legacy selects a Palestinian Arab and an Israeli youth to meet with students and religious communities in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The tour is sponsored by an interfaith planning committee, led by the Presbyterian Church.

Last summer, Saar Peer and Samer Dajani were chosen for the tour. They were selected on the basis of their maturity, communication skills and most importantly on their "ability to spend a significant amount of time with a counterpart," Tillman said.

Spending a month living together with host families and sharing their views on the Arab-Israeli conflict with Americans provided a "life-changing" experience for Peer and Dajani, according to Reverend Jack Lolla, pastor of the Plum Creek Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

Before last summer, Peer had never had contact with a West Bank Palestinian. After getting to know Dajani, Peer "had to change his thinking" about the realities of Palestinians living on the West Bank, Rev. Lolla said. Peer is now serving in the Israeli armed forces.

Dajani, who now attends college in the United States, finds discussing difficult topics with diverse people an easier task due to his new skills acquired through Legacy, Rev. Lolla said.

Rev. Lolla pointed out that many of those who met with Peer and Dajani in Pittsburgh could not detect any conflict between the two young men. What these people did not know was that Peer and Dajani had come a long way in the dialogue process through Legacy's training, Rev. Lolla said. Previously, Peer and Dajani had found it difficult to accept each other's "reality," he noted. He credited Legacy's "fine work in teaching them how to

deal with conflict" for the turnaround.

While in Pittsburgh, Peer and Dajani learned "to protect each other" and "work together as a team," Rev. Lolla said. At first this was a difficult concept for both young men to accept, he said. However, on several occasions Peer and Dajani "were being pressed by" those in the audience who disagreed with their views, he said. As the young men experienced this, they "realised that protecting each other was very important," he noted.

Learning to "manage anger better" and maintaining "a calm, rational way of dealing" with conflict are invaluable skills Peer and Dajani developed from their training and time spent together, Rev. Lolla said.

Although Legacy hopes to expand its focus on its programmes in the region, there are benefits to bringing Palestinian and Israeli youths to the United States for training, Martin Tillman explained.

"There is a real value to bringing individuals away from the conflict" in that it provides a "setting where old rules of behaviour are no longer necessary and learning new ones is possible," he said. The workshop provides "an honest and open setting, which is conducive to non-destructive interchange," he added.

Once the summer training is over, youths continue their work in dialogue through youth leadership clubs, community action projects and speakers bureaus. The "idea is to provide a vehicle

for youths when they return... to feel continuously connected to ideas, issues and concerns that have been raised for them in the United States, and to continue to raise those concerns and deal constructively with their needs," Tillman said.

On return to the region, the youths concentrate on developing "hardcore skills at taking charge of the future and playing a constructive role" as emerging leaders, Tillman noted. Sharpening public speaking skills through Legacy programmes is one way of doing this, he pointed out.

Youth address schools, community and civic groups and serve as advisors to visiting delegations that are interested in meeting with a sense of empowerment, Tillman said. Expressing "strong emotions about the very complex experiences they are living with" to citizens in the region and to foreigners imbues the young people with confidence, he said.

Exploring complex issues of importance to the region is another way to hone communication and conflict resolution skills. A recent Global Viewpoints Forum examined the Israeli-Palestinian economic relationship. This kind of programme seeks to examine "complex issues of regional economic cooperation, moving beyond the politics of settling the dispute to the almost more intractable issues of parity in terms of economic development for Arabs in Israel," Tillman pointed out. — U.S. Information Agency..

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARIES

Prevention better than cure

By Dr. Othman Zeid Al Kilani

WE were overwhelmed with hopes and expectations when we learnt that files and documents on corruption, which plagued Jordan for so long, have finally reached the media. The foreign media had earlier on revealed incredibly astounding tales about corruption in Jordan that has spread and permeated society, becoming like what we can call a "profession," closely linked only to those executive politicians in Jordan.

Corrupt officials in high positions have so far escaped all retribution and penalties, since very severe consequences and total ruin awaited any person who, in the past, might have dared to point an accusing finger at any of these officials. They were above all suspicion. All perhaps, except those scapegoats who were sacrificed for some reason or another known only to those in high places with vast knowledge about the intrigues and behind-the-scenes conspiracies.

We are almost frustrated now to see that as the time became ripe to settle accounts with these officials, and when a trickle of information has found its way to the public through the media about the wide-spread corruption that has been rife in our country, we begin to hear an outcry in protest at what was described as a "leak of information" to the press from a supposedly secret parliamentary session.

Those elements behind the outcry seem to have forgotten the tale of the ostrich which tries to bury its head in the sand while the rest of its body remains exposed for all to see. Just what kind of secrecy are they talking about in a country that is totally exposed to all, where secrets are far more known to the enemies than to the friends?

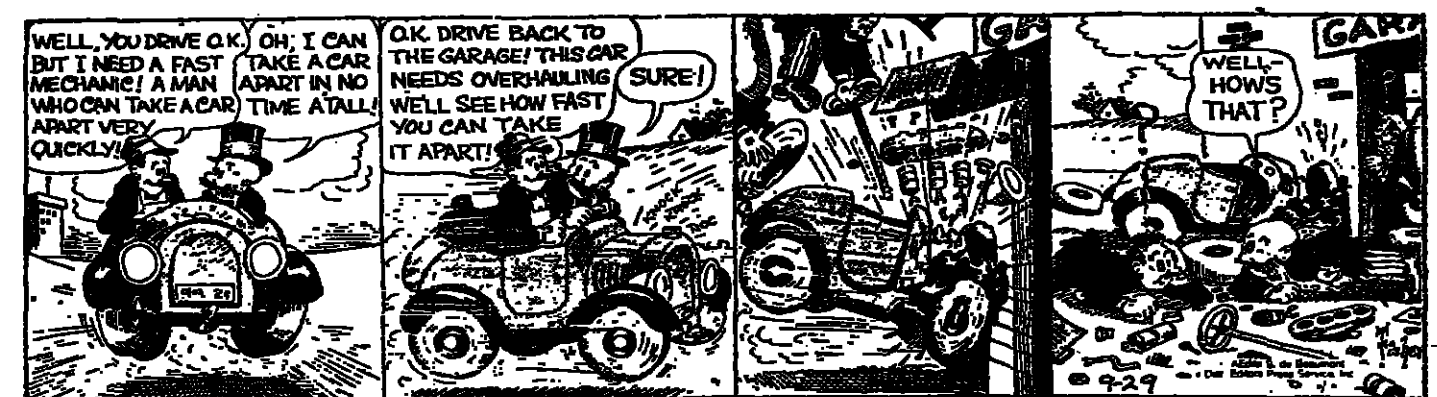
Corruption in Jordan abounds, and is documented in rather bulky files. Corrupt officials are not liable to receive any penalties or retribution because they have been able to control many organisations over the past years and because they have created many alliances that, in effect, constitute a special force, exercising pressure on various organisations and spreading like and octopus, paralysing the law, in total disregard to all ideals and values. These officials have practised and encouraged bribery, the taking of commissions, blackmail and the lack of a sense of national belonging.

Therefore, and in order to avoid a vicious circle of debate which might only contain or dampen public rage, Parliament members are urged to benefit from the present situation and enact anti-corruption legislations. These should mainly include a law allowing the media to exercise the basic right of freely providing the public with information and the right to free expression about different issues without fear or any apprehension of possible punishment.

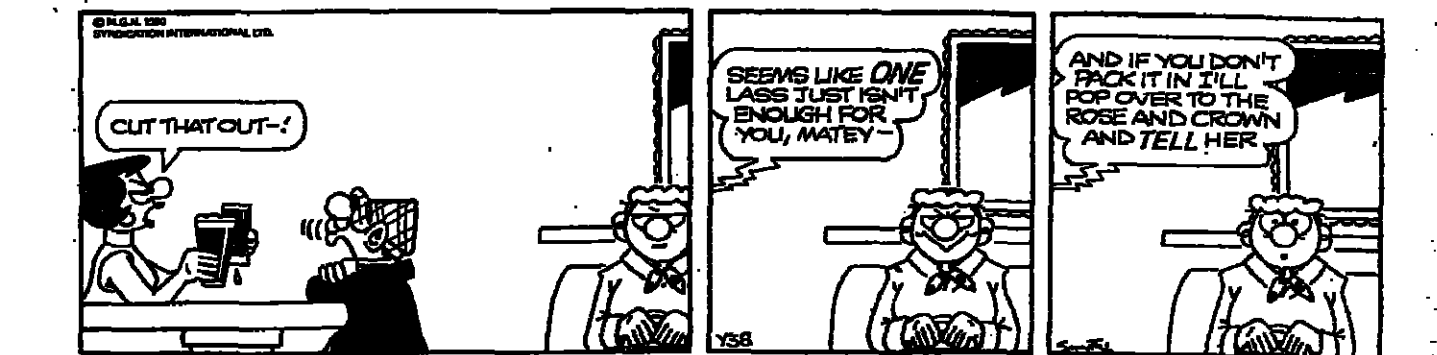
The required law should allow a journalist free access to all sources of information and should guarantee a legal framework for "publicity," this is what we hope Parliament will achieve through its deliberations with no encroachment on national security.

We want parliament to enact a law under which officials must be asked to account for any wealth they might accumulate. Combating corruption can only be done by revealing to the public all the facts related to various departments and officials running them. This will allow the public the chance to monitor officials' excesses and negative attitudes, and can serve as a strong deterrent. Prevention, as we say, is better than cure — Translated from Sawt Al Shaab daily.

Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



OUT OF FOCUS

'Secrets' and 'scoops'

By Adnan Aqil Saad

THE OTHER DAY, I was exchanging notes with a friend of mine, who claimed he had "all there is to know" about the Lower House's "secret" debate on corruption and financial mismanagement. "Well, it seems that we are in for exciting times ahead," he said. "A lot of dirty linen is going to be washed in public," he added, tapping a little notebook.

I couldn't agree with him more. But did he really have that much information on what went on behind that closed door of Parliament? "Of course, I do," he said. "I have it from the horse's mouth."

Good, I told him, but could he be gracious enough to share some of the information? "No," came the sharp reply. "It is privileged information, you know. And I don't want to jeopardise my sources."

Who were his sources anyway? I asked. "I can only tell you this: It is someone who attended the session," he said. Well, the term "someone" narrows it down to one "source" rather than "sources," I pointed out to him. "Of course, I cross-checked it with others," he hastily added.

Was it a deputy? I was simply curious. "There were also others who attended the session; you know who I am talking about — ministers and Parliament staff. It could have been any one of them," he smirked.

But did he use the information and write something? "It's for me to know and for you to guess," he boasted.

It was his funeral, I told him, particularly that the House was spent over "leaked" information about the session. He could be called to testify before the House committee in charge of probing the leaks, I reminded him.

"Who says I could be called?" he interjected, a tiny trace of panic creeping into his voice. He had nothing to fear, I tried to assure him. "It's only a routine; all they want is to put you to a test whether you will reveal your sources or not," I told him. "In fact, it is a test of your professional ethics rather than a bid to locate the leak," I added.

"Are you sure?" he was anxious now. I said nothing was sure anymore, and for all I knew, they could start prosecuting journalists for doing their job.

"Prosecution?" There was no mistaking the trembling in his voice now. "I could be in real trouble." He was about to break down.

Why was he panicking, I asked. Did he file a "scoop" story for anyone that could be traced back?

"That's not the point," he wailed. "But I have been telling many people I have all the 'privileged' information, down to the last detail."

What was wrong with that? I asked. "Well, half the town now believes that I know everything there is to know about the secret session," he said on the verge of sobbing. "It will only be a matter of time before the deputies get to me."

I said I could only offer my sympathy, but he should be proud that he was only doing his job.

"Can I ask you a favour?" he looked at me intently. Of course, I said.

"Forget we had this conversation," he pleaded. I could not do that, I told him; unless of course he takes me into his confidence and spills the entire thing.

He looked around furtively, edged closer to me and whispered: "All my information was picked up from the local press and the news agencies. No one talked to me, I had no source. None of the deputies in the House even knows I exist."

Deaf and dumb latest tools for drug smugglers

By Issam Hamza Reuters

DAMASCUS — Drug traffickers in Syria, facing stepped up vigilance from police, have thought up a new ploy — using deaf and dumb people to smuggle in their narcotics.

Six deaf mutes have recently been caught trying to bring in hashish from neighbouring Lebanon, police told Reuters. They were questioned through an expert from a medical centre who knew their sign language.

"The purpose (of using handicapped smugglers) is to divert attention from them and to make it difficult for investigators to discover the real smugglers who are using them," said Colonel Ali Darboodi, chief of Syria's anti-narcotics bureau.

He said that although no drugs originated in Syria, smugglers used the country as a transit point to Western and other consumer countries.

Diplomats said hashish arrived mainly from Lebanon and heroin from Turkey.

As part of tougher steps to fight traffickers Damascus was cooperating closely with other countries, Darboodi said. "We foiled several smuggling attempts through coordination with countries like Jordan, Saudi Arabia and West Germany," he said.

Interior Minister Mohammad Harba stressed his determination to halt the flow of drugs in talks in December with U.S. Ambassador to Syria Edward Djerejian, Darboodi added.

Peace of mind missing from 'Home of Peace'

By Nur Sati Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — If one is old and sane, there is a chance of him or her turning crazy if admitted to the Home of Peace at Tia Al Ali. Here, the sane and the insane are crammed 10 to a room, dimly lit, both from lack of electricity and because the rooms have been built so that other parts of the building surround the bedrooms and poorly heated, with bare blue-coloured walls and no carpets so that even a little bit of heat would be conquered by the coldness of the atmosphere.

Over and above everything else is a strong sense of despair among the residents of the home, but it has very little to do with the running of the place.

As one enters through the main door of the building, the first impression is of a relatively clean and spacious place. But the feeling is soon drowned with the echoes of moans coming from who-knows-where.

Eight bedrooms — four each for men and women — are situated along a blue corridor. Each bedroom is perhaps only big enough for six beds. Yet, an average of 10 beds are squeezed together, giving it a boarding school look.

Benches along the wall are filled with old men, each keeping to their own, sitting quietly, moaning meaningless words or jumping enthusiastically to greet the outsider.

For an average mind, the scene is not without a tinge of fear.

However, the fear is dispelled soon.

"It is so nice of you to visit us," says an old man with shabby clothes and a terrible stench, his face lighting up with a big smile.

Why is such a pleasant and normal man here? "Imagine," he replied, "my sons and daughters did not want an old and helpless man like me. They threw me out and brought me here. They were embarrassed to be near me. They never visit or ask about me."

"But I am so grateful to people at the Home of Peace; they really love and take care of us," he adds, gratitude replacing resentment over his family's behaviour.

This old man's case is not an isolated one. Most of the people living in the Home of Peace have similar cases of being abandoned and not having their families care for them. "They are either found in the streets, picked up by the police and brought here, or their families dump them onto us," explains Father Musa Adeli, head of the organisation which runs the home.

Obviously, the old men and women are at the home to spend their last moments in peace, but "peace" is the one element that appears to be missing in the drab and scary atmosphere there.

Out of the 85 elderly and abandoned men and women, only 10 seem normal. Sixty five of them need special treatment and medication, says psychiatrist Dr. Walid Sarhan, who is among a few physicians to pay a weekly visit to the elderly.

There are some who retreat to a corner that seems to say "no trespassing." Others crouch, moaning, yelling or even becoming a bit aggressive.

"This mixture makes things very difficult for the 'patients' and the eight sisters in charge of the elderly," Sarhan says. Nearly 70 per cent of the men and women are "sick," severe mental cases, or severely handicapped. There are those who hallucinate and some others suffering from brain damage or schizophrenia, and more, he adds.

The more "normal" of the elderly continuously protest. They are badly affected by the "retarded" and live in misery due to constant beatings, stealing and general disturbances from some of their not-so-normal co-inmates, according to Sarhan.

"Where is my family? It is a mad house here!" says a woman of over 80 who is appears to be fighting a battle against insanity.

According to Father Adeli, "there is nothing we can do about this mixture of normal and less normal people."

"There are no places for the 'sick' to go. Apparently, they have been turned down by the National Medical Institution (NMI) and the Ministry of Health because they claim that it is not their duty to accept such people," he says.

"If we do not take them in,



Abandoned, uncared-for old people often end up in the street. One of the refugees available to them is the Home of Peace, where, at least

they will end up in the streets. What can we do?" Father Adeli asks. "We do not even have the money to make extra space to separate the normal from the retarded."

According to one of the eight sisters who look after the patients, "no one comes to visit them. Occasionally people bring mansom, clothing or money, but these lonely people are human. They need attention. They need care and people to be with them all the time." At Christmas or Easter time, children from a nearby school pay a visit. Otherwise, the elderly see the same faces every day.

One day is no different from another at the home; which can ill-afford to offer any activity to its inmates except for three meals in a dining room at the end of the corridor with several tables and a kitchen at the back. Here they have their first meal at seven thirty in the morning — some milk, tea, olives and cheese. Another

meal at midday consists of meat, cucumbers and tomatoes. And the third meal at five o'clock, usually soup, rice and a sandwich. Six is bed time.

"Activities" in between the meals involve sitting on the benches, or walking along the corridor. Once a week the inmates get a bath and occasionally they get visitors. "They do not have any activities such as playing cards, watching television or going on daily trips," one of the sisters says.

This is an old persons home, where they will spend the last moments of their life — unwanted, lonely and miserable. On top of which they have to bear the ugly atmosphere with an unbearable stench of an overcrowded room.

"No other institution will accept them or no other charity organisation gives sufficient money for the elderly to live decently," the sister said.

"We do not even have

enough medicine," she said. "We had to treat the patients with our own little knowledge, until Dr. Sarhan came."

According to Dr. Sarhan, no doctor was in attendance at the home for many years. Dr. Sarhan only began his weekly visits three months ago. "There is no support coming from medical institutions. They claim that since the Home of Peace is a charity, it is not their duty," he said.

The Home of Peace is a charity organisation founded in India by Mother Teresa in the 1950s, admitting only abandoned elderly, irrespective of religion, colour or race. But Jordan seems to be an exception — entering are even those who need serious medical treatment from Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, and the Jordan Valley.

According to Father Adeli, the Home of Peace has begun accepting children on humanitarian grounds. Two teenage

boys are amongst the elderly people because they are accepted no where else, says Father Adeli.

According to Father Adeli, there are over 100 young paralysed or handicapped children waiting to be admitted to the Home of Peace. Additionally, there are over 10 elderly on the waiting list.

The Home of Peace survives and takes care of its people through donations. But, it is still not enough, according to Father Adeli. "There is barely sufficient heating, water and electricity," he said. "Although there are volunteers, they are not enough to provide money, equipment, clothes and transportation for daily trips."

But according to several volunteers, the Home of Peace is doing a miraculous job considering they are fighting against great odds. The institution seems to have taken the role of "home of all trails."

Picturephones — much ado about very little

By Gene Emery Reuters

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island — During the 1964 world's fair in New York American Telephone and Telegraph Company predicted that within a few years people would be able to see the person they were talking to on the telephone.

But like other optimistic predictions in recent decades — underwater communities, routine space travel, personal helicopters and robot housekeepers — the picturephone is yet another example of how the future takes longer to arrive than we expect.

In 1967 three Japanese companies began actively selling such devices in the United States. But the products made by Sony and

Mitsubishi are not hot sellers and Panasonic has dropped out of the market.

"It has not been one of our success stories," said Thomas Lauterback of the Electronic Industries Association, an American trade group.

Some of the problems are technical. Until the current copper wiring is replaced by high-tech glass fibres, the U.S. telephone system cannot handle all the data a picturephone needs to transmit moving images over a phone line.

As the result, the picturephones on the market today send only wallet-sized black-and-white snapshots, and they cut off all conversation during the five to ten seconds it takes to transmit a picture.

Another problem is price. A

Sony face-to-face costs \$500 and Mitsubishi's Visitel retails for \$400.

Furthermore, unless the person on the other end of the line also has a picturephone, the caller's device is useless.

Kozo Tsuya, Mitsubishi's division manager for visual communications, said about 100,000 picturephones have been sold in the United States. Many are bought as gifts by people whose parents or children live far away.

"They seem to do reasonably well as gift items," said Lauterback. "The impetus seems to be from the kids who have grandparents back home, they want to be able to show off the grandchildren."

"I think the interest in the product is there," said Tsuya,

"but a moving picture and the same kind of pricing level is going to be required for it to become much more popular."

"Ultimately we would want a motion, colour transmission," Lauterback said. Although using a picturephone does not increase the price of a long-distance phone call, it can still be an expensive way to communicate, said Lauterback.

"I can put a lot of pictures in an envelope (and mail it) for the cost of sending a low resolution transmission over the phone."

One industry observer said the public may not be buying picturephones because they do not understand how they work.

"They think that when somebody calls, the person on the other end of the line will see them

in whatever condition they are," she said.

But that is not how today's picturephones operate.

When one picturephone owner calls another, the tiny TV camera in the machine takes a picture of the caller, which appears at the other end on a 10-cm monitor.

Callers can change from their bathrobe, comb their hair, put a nice smile on their face and then push a button to "freeze" the image on the screen.

If the caller does not like that snapshot, another one can be taken.

Then "send" button is pushed to transmit the picture to the person they are calling.

The transmission takes up to 10 seconds and no one can talk over the line while the picture is being

sent. "It's the same principle as a fax machine," said Lauterback. "The image is not what you'd call high resolution."

But a range of people aside from parents and grandparents have begun experimenting with its usefulness, according to Mitsubishi.

The company said its picturephones have been used to send drivers licence photos between law enforcement agencies and to monitor criminals confined to their homes as part of their penalty.

What happened to the picturephone envisioned by ATT at the 1964 world's fair? The company decided there was not much of a future for it and never developed the device.

Lithuanian deserters rounded up

(Continued from page 1)

ted against the central committee," Brazauskas said after para-operators arrived with automatic weapons and radio receivers. He said Mikolas Burakavicius, leader of local communists remaining loyal to the Moscow party, had informed them they intended to take up offices in the siding, but Brazauskas said this could not be possible as long as Lithuanians were there.

The European Community, in statement issued in Brussels, peaked Tuesday for maximum strain following reports of the scene in Vilnius.

Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa sent a letter to Gorbachev urging him not to try to intimidate or crush the Lithuanian independence movement. Pope John Paul also called on Moscow to abstain from using military force.

On Tuesday, Gennady Gerasimov, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, said a resolution passed by the U.S. Senate last week calling on Moscow to halt intimidation of Lithuania was provocative interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs.

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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZYZUF

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

NAUHM

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □


LAVOAW

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

DOSPYR

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

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**WHAT THAT
BUFFET DINNER
WAS SORT OF.**

Now arrange the circled letters to form a surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: "□ □ □ □ - □ □ □ □ □ □"

(Answer: tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DIRTY QUEER VELLUM SEKTION
Answer: Why his conscience was clean—
HE NEVER USED IT

World opinion split on halves vs. quarters

ZURICH (AP) — The revolutionary proposal to split a soccer match into quarters instead of halves has so far only succeeded in splitting opinion in the world.

World Cup nations only agree on one thing — the plan will not be in place for the 1994 edition in the United States when an increase in breaks could mean millions of dollars more in advertising revenue.

Out of the blue last month, FIFA President Joao Havelange called for 25-minute quarters instead of the traditional 45-minute halves to create a bigger financial bonanza at the world's biggest sporting event.

Initial shock has made way for more contemplative reaction as even some opponents of the idea say it is worth studying.

Havelange's proposal flies in the face of soccer's hallowed principle of conservatism in rules and regulations, and shook the guardians of that tradition.

Northern Ireland's Harry Cavan, an elder FIFA statesman and chairman of the technical committee, found the idea so outlandish that he was not terribly sure Havelange made the suggestion.

"Dr. Havelange should know it is a law of the game that it is extremely difficult to change," he said at a FIFA World Cup preparatory meeting last weekend.

"For him, soccer rules dating back a century do not budge for financial considerations," he said.

Soviet coach Valery Lobanowski agreed. "Havelange thought a bit too much about TV companies and advertising," he said. "You just cannot destroy the rules of the game," he said.

Bobby Robson, the coach of England, the cradle of the game, also said it would be breaking with great tradition. "The current rules are good principles."

"Two times 45 minutes has existed for a century. You don't need to change this," said West Germany's coach Franz Beckenbauer.



Maradona in action

Maradona ready for World Cup

ARGENTINE captain Diego Maradona, an inspirational figure in Napoli's 3-1 defeat of Juventus, declared afterwards he was fitter and better prepared for this year's World Cup finals than in Mexico four years ago.

Scorning critics who say his days of footballing genius are over, Maradona said: "Do you want to know the truth? I'm better than in 1986."

"My weight's better, my health's better, not to mention my will to play. If I need to spell it out, I'm aiming to have another great World Cup."

Maradona's two goals Sunday were eloquent testimony to his claims that he has rediscovered his old touch and sharpness — his second was a perfectly timed free-kick from five metres outside the penalty area.

Now his desire to lead Argentina to a second successive World Cup crown appears to be rekindled.

"To have a great World Cup, I need first to have a great end to the championship," he said.

Napoli still trail Italian league leaders AC Milan by a point and the European champions look to have overcome their recent loss of form. After trailing to an early

goal Sunday, Milan brushed aside Lecce 2-1.

Their rally was due largely to captain Franco Baresi's first goal of the season which levelled the scores by halftime.

"We heard in the interval that Napoli were ahead of Juve. Like a spring it triggered off inside us the will to beat Lecce," Baresi said afterwards.

Dutch striker Marco Van Basten, who scored his 19th league goal and the winner 12 minutes into the second half, said Milan had found their touch again.

"While we don't expect Napoli to give up the fight, we are once again the Milan of the good times... sharp, dedicated, ready to strike. We've got over our tiredness."

Italian fans were treated to a goal feast Sunday with 35 in nine games — a tally last equalled May 22, 1960.

Internazionale and Roma led the way with wins of 7-2 and 5-2 over Atalanta and Verona respectively.

It was still short of the all-time record of 42 goals in the 1930-31 championships.

In West Germany, however, only 11 goals were scored in nine games — the lowest number in Bundesliga history.

That only added to the misery of fans who fear more of their leading players will be heading south, lured by the riches of the Italian league.

Five of Franz Beckenbauer's World Cup line-up already play in Italy and Bayern Munich's Stefan Reuter and Cologne's Thomas Hassler hear the Italians' shopping list.

Despite a goalless draw at Bochum, European Cup semi-finalists Bayern Munich stretched their lead to three points at the top after Eintracht Frankfurt lost 3-0 to Bayer Leverkusen.

Goals were also the main focus of the Spanish league where champions-elect Real Madrid took a decisive step towards breaking Barcelona's goalscoring record with a 5-2 win against Tenerife.

Real, nine points ahead of second-placed Atletico Madrid and Valencia, need six more goals from seven games to equal the league record of 96 set in 1959.

Argentina attempts to end goal famine

GLASGOW (R) — Argentina, with time running out before the World Cup in June, are anxiously hoping they can solve their goalscoring problems in Wednesday's friendly against Scotland.

The world champions, who have not scored in their last eight matches stretching back to July, will be without their inspirational Captain Diego Maradona who is fulfilling an advertising contract in Japan.

Although a 0-0 draw with World Cup hosts Italy in Sardinia in December was seen as a good result, manager Carlos Bilardo recognises his side need to find their scoring touch against Scotland.

"This game is vitally important to us. We are always under pressure as world champions and there is so little time left before the World Cup. Every game is significant," he said.

Bilardo, who managed the victorious side in Mexico four years ago, is pinning his hopes on new wing sensation Claudio Caniggia, a lightning fast striker and the man who scored Argentina's last international goal — in the South American Championship nine months ago.

Caniggia, 23, has scored five goals for Argentina and is returning to top form for Atalanta after a mixed first season in Italian football with Verona clouded by

a broken leg that put him out for four months.

Scotland manager Andy Roxburgh, also seeking a reliable source of goals, continues to experiment with his line-up and is giving several uncapped players an opportunity to stake a World Cup place.

His successful striking partnership of Glasgow Rangers pair Ally McCoist and Mo Johnston, who have suffered a loss of form recently, are dropped to the substitutes' bench to make way for Alan McNally and debutant Robert Fleck.

Fleck has scored 12 times for Norwich in the English first Division this season, while McNally has scored nine goals for West German league leaders Bayern Munich.

"I have no compunction about starting both of them," said Roxburgh.

"I would certainly rather do it now than against Costa Rica in our opening World Cup game. We need to know what they can do long before then."

"This match and next month's game against East Germany are all about learning."

Alex McLeish takes over the captaincy with Roy Aitken also relegated to the bench, while Everton midfielder Stuart McCall and Hearts defender Craig Levein make their debuts.

Spain faces Austrian fire in World Cup warm-up

MALAGA, SPAIN (R) — Prolific Austrian strikers Anton Polster and Gerhard Rodax will test Spain's defence in a soccer friendly between two World Cup finalists Wednesday.

Polster has plenty of experience of football in Spain as Sevilla's leading marksman, while Rodax has attracted the interest of several Spanish clubs.

Rodax netted a hat-trick in Admira Wacker's 5-1 destruction of Vienna last weekend to strengthen his position as top scorer in the Austrian league this season with 32 goals.

Struggling First Division Celta Vigo made a bid for him last week and press reports have said Atletico Madrid and Barcelona

are also interested.

Polster has caused Spanish club defences a lot of problems this season and his current tally of 27 goals is bettered only by the 33 amassed by Real Madrid's Mexican star Hugo Sanchez.

Spanish team chief Luis Suarez is well aware of the perils posed by Austria. "Their play is based on a good defence with two very dangerous points, one of which is Polster," he said. "And they are very dangerous on the counter-attack."

Austria have been badly hit by the absence of offensive midfielder Andreas Herzog, who sustained an injury last weekend and was ruled out of the Spain match.

"This has been a hard blow to the squad and I shall have to rethink my tactics," Austrian team chief Josef Hickersberger said.

Andreas Reisinger stands in for Herzog, while sweeper Ernst Aigner may be dropped after a poor game last weekend.

Hickersberger will probably organise his defence round Robert Pecl, whom he rates as Austria's best defender.

The absence of Luis Milla from the Spanish squad has prompted the Spanish press to speculate that the Barcelona midfielder may have lost his World Cup place.

A more likely explanation is

that Milla, who played in Spain's last three internationals, is unfit after missing recent Barcelona games over a pay dispute with coach Johan Cruyff.

Suarez rejected press speculation about Milla, "the fact that he's not playing momentarily does not mean he's excluded," he said.

Sevilla midfielder Rafa Paz replaces Valencia's Fernando Gomez who plays for Spain's under-21 team against Italy Thursday.

Suarez has also called up Valencia defender Quique Sanchez and recalled Gijon goalkeeper Juan Ablanedo to the squad as back-up for first choice Andoni Zubizarreta.

'Frenchie' faces 1st big test

DEAUVILLE (R) — The great white hope of French boxing, Christophe Tiozzo, faces his moment of truth Friday when he fights for a world title for the first time.

Despite an immaculate 25-0 record and a recent listing in the World Boxing Council rankings as official challenger for Sugar Ray Leonard's world super-middleweight title, Tiozzo still feels that American fight critics regard him merely as "a smart little Frenchie."

Standing between him and the chance to earn the respect of the boxing fraternity is South Korea's Baek In-Chul, holder of the World Boxing Association's super-middleweight title.

Tiozzo is oozing with confidence at the thought of Friday's fight in Lyon before rabid home fans who see in the 26-year-old the potential champion they have

been waiting and hoping for.

"I know I will probably not be able to stop him in the first few rounds," Tiozzo said after a sparring session in the chic Normandy seaside resort of Deauville where he has set up his training headquarters.

"I am fit enough to outpoint him but I think I can win the fight inside the distance, by the sixth or eighth rounds, maybe even before that."

"He is a dangerous fighter, with an impressive record (46 wins to two defeats with 42 victories inside the distance) but I know I can beat him."

If he can fulfil his own expectations Friday, Tiozzo will take a step towards the big time, though he is aware there would still be a long way to go.

"I would love to fight somebody like (Panama's Roberto) Duran," he said. "But people

like (top promoter) Bob Arum hardly know who I am. They know Tiozzo is a smart little Frenchie but that's about it."

"What I've got to do now is fight American boxers in the United States to get famous over there. We will need the backing of an American sponsor."

Tiozzo found his own way of sampling the fight scene on the other side of the Atlantic by spending six weeks in Miami for some strenuous workouts for his bout with Baek before heading for Deauville.

The highly popular Tiozzo, who always finds time for fans and the media, has been able to train in relaxed surroundings in Normandy. "I love it here. Everybody is so nice to me," he said. "I like to feel on holiday when I'm training."

He stopped American Frank Minton in eight rounds in

Deauville last July and would also like to have staged his world title fight in the resort's casino. But its 500-seat capacity ruled it out as absurdly small for France's fight of the year.

Instead, around 10,000 Tiozzo fans will pack Lyon's Palais Des Sports in the expectation of witnessing a new French world champion.

The devaluation of world titles, now that 68 are available in the different weights of the four international governing bodies, will not lessen the celebrations should their man win.

Nor will it detract from an eventual victory in Tiozzo's own mind. "It's a pity (there are so many titles) but there's not much I can do about it," he said. "Some guys don't deserve their world titles but I know I will deserve mine. I will prove it."

Hi-tech media is off limits for soccer

ZURICH (AP) — High technology is well on its way to exposing even the tiniest refereeing errors at the World Cup, and the ruling body of world soccer is not amused.

A demonstration of computer technology at a Fifth congress last weekend showed that refereeing nightmares like narrow off-side rulings and goal-line disputes can be judged up to a dozen centimetres, and Italian Rai television plans to provide viewers with plenty of examples during the month-long tournament.

That displeases FIFA, which already sees fear of failure and emotional pressures building further on its lonesome referees. Blatant bungling against a team exposed by scientific means might set off a riot.

You cannot heat up the atmosphere against the referee, said FIFA general

secretary Joseph Blatter. World Cup organisers have already barred the use of video replays on the stadium screens to protect its referees from the pent-up anger from the crowds.

Soccer has always shielded away from using videotape in a match to check decisions and is so conservative in its rules and regulations it does not even want to use electronic timing.

The computerised telebeam system seems light years ahead of soccer rules.

In turn a simple television picture into computer graphics, then zips to an ideal perspective on a play and zooms in to pinpoint with minute precision whether a ball crossed the line or whether an attacker was standing level with a defender or centimetres behind him in an off-side dispute.

It can also simulate the vi-

sion of a striker, showing from his viewpoint how he received a pass, ran on goal and shot out of reach of the goalie.

Jaws of jaded journalists dropped to the floor during the demonstration, but World Cup referees might be agape with embarrassment while fans clench their teeth in frustration.

The telebeam pictures would be broadcast after the match for analysis purposes and might show the result of a match to be plain wrong.

We would like it not to be used but we cannot see how it can be done, said Blatter. He said he would discuss the issue with Rai, the Italian network responsible for the international television pictures.

The potential for controversy is there. At the 1966 World Cup final, England's Geoff Hurst scored the winning shot in the

final against West Germany when a blistering drive ricocheted off the bar and — seemingly for the linesman — into the goal. But afterwards photos showed the ball never crossed the goal line.

With stuff like this we might have to play that final again, said England's coach Bobby Robson, who was also impressed with the telebeam performance.

Rai has used the system on a smaller scale over the past few years, and there has yet to be a violent crowd reaction to a bad call, even when a referee was proven wrong.

There have been no problems so far, admitted Blatter. Only discussions.

Television has never been used to judge a match, but has played a role in disciplinary sentencing for incidents that escaped the attention of the referee.

Butcher triumphs again in great race

NEW YORK (AP) — For 11 days, Susan Butcher fought her way through Alaska's deepest snow in a quarter century, battling temperatures that dropped to 40 below Celsius at night and winds that ripped through the mountains and over the frozen Bering sea at 160 kmph.

Three of her 14 veteran sled dogs had to be sent home, injured or ill, and sign of half-starved moose dotted the 1,863-kilometre iditarod trail from Anchorage to Nome.

For a record-tying fourth time, Butcher won the iditarod trail sled dog race, which commemorates the historic 1925 relay of diphtheria serum to the dying gold miners of Nome.

"I do love it," she said, "the dogs, the wilderness, the lifestyle."

Butcher broke her 1987 record time by more than 10 minutes when she finished March 14 in 11 days, 1 hour, 53 minutes and 23 seconds, averaging more than 241 kilometres and less than an hour

sleep each day.

"Physically, you're working very hard, in extreme temperatures and deprived of sleep," Butcher said. "Yes, I think this could be the most demanding event in sports."

"Perhaps more than any other travail, sleep deprivation poses the gravest danger to mushers. You don't even realise what's happening to you until someone else sees you," she said. "Or, when you reach one of the check-

points, and they tell you that the last racer came through at 11 o'clock. Then, you try to figure out how far behind you are."

Even those simple things become terrible math problems, and a few hours later, you can't even remember when you came in, she said. I've learned to cope with it, and I'm able to figure out strategic problems when others often make disastrous mistakes.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAN HIRSCH

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠A10 ♥AKJ1052 ♦6 ♣Q974
 Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?
 A.—This hand meets both criteria for a jump shift: a self-sustaining suit of its own, and a fit for partner's suit. So even though the high-card count is only 14, we would jump to two hearts.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠Q753 ♥Q865 ♦QJ62 ♣7
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 2 NT Pass ?
 What action do you take?
 A.—Although textbooks proclaim that you need 25-26 points to make game at no trump, most forget to mention one added provision: both hands have to have a fair share of high cards. When the points are distributed 19-20 and 7, high cards alone are not enough, especially when there is no fit. Pass.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠AK73 ♥J97 ♦J873 ♣92
 Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
 A.—The trouble with responding one spade is you will be in an awkward position should partner rebid one no trump or two clubs—two hearts is an underbid and three hearts a distinct stretch. You can

avoid that problem by raising to two hearts immediately.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠8 ♥K4 ♦96542 ♣J9765
 Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?
 A.—It is quite likely that you have a better spot, but how do you propose getting there? Even if you play one no trump as forcing, that action is fraught with danger. Since you do not have the values for an immediate response, pass.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠J2 ♥Q764 ♦K932 ♣A107
 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
 A.—Don't bypass a four-card major in favor of raising partner's minor, especially these days when partner might be bidding a three-card suit. Respond one heart.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠7652 ♥AKJ54 ♦8 ♣63
 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
 A.—With two four-card suits, you respond as cheaply as possible to partner's minor-suit opening bid. With two five-card suits, however, bid the higher-ranking first, regardless of suit quality. Therefore, bid one spade.

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Violence jolts S.Africa's delicate peace process

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Bloodshed in the black township of Sebokeng clouded South Africa's delicate peace process, with some anti-apartheid campaigners saying Tuesday the killings undermined President F.W. de Klerk's promises of reform.

The Vaal Civic Association, an anti-apartheid group that represents residents of nine townships south of Johannesburg including Sebokeng, said between 13 and 17 people were killed and 280 wounded, 30 seriously, when police fired on thousands of peaceful black demonstrators Monday.

Police said five people were killed and 130 injured when officers opened fire in self-defence on 50,000 militant blacks armed with an assortment of sticks and stones, bottles and iron pipes who attacked officers and went on a looting spree.

Sebokeng's hospital counted eight killed in the clashes. Black groups looking forward to the start next month of ground-breaking talks between De Klerk and the main opposition organisation, the African National Congress (ANC), expressed dismay at the incident.

"Obviously our reaction is one of outrage," said Murphy Morobe, a spokesman for the United Democratic Front (UDF), a coalition of organisations allied to the ANC.

"Such events do not conform to the public pronouncements of the white leadership. They proclaim freedom publicly but they want to retain the control they have always kept through the

machinery of apartheid," he said. The civil rights watchdog organisation Detainees Aid Centre said its figures for casualties in Sebokeng matched those of the Vaal Association.

Spokeswoman Audrey Coleman said the group knew of at least 400 blacks killed by police in similar situations involving political protest since De Klerk told parliament on Feb. 2 he was lifting restrictions on the ANC and other opposition groups.

She said the incidence of detention without trial under the tough emergency laws had also risen since the turn of the year. "We absolutely condemn what is happening," Coleman said. "This is a peaceful march by people accepting De Klerk at his word that they have a right to articulate their grievances. Then police opened fire without warning. The people were sitting ducks."

"De Klerk must get his police under control."

Government officials denied police provoked the marchers and said officers had been asked to act with restraint.

Reuters correspondent Rich Mkhondo reported from Sebokeng Tuesday morning that the township was tense but quiet with most people having returned to work. Schools were closed.

An official of the Vaal Civic Association, who preferred for his safety not to be identified, blamed the police and government for the "massacre" after residents had collected to protest against high rents and racial segregation.

"The police declared war by banning our peaceful march. People had no alternative but to defy the banning order. Is this the kind of new South Africa the president is talking about?" the official said.

Senior ANC leaders are due to return from exile this week to prepare for preliminary talks with De Klerk on April 11.

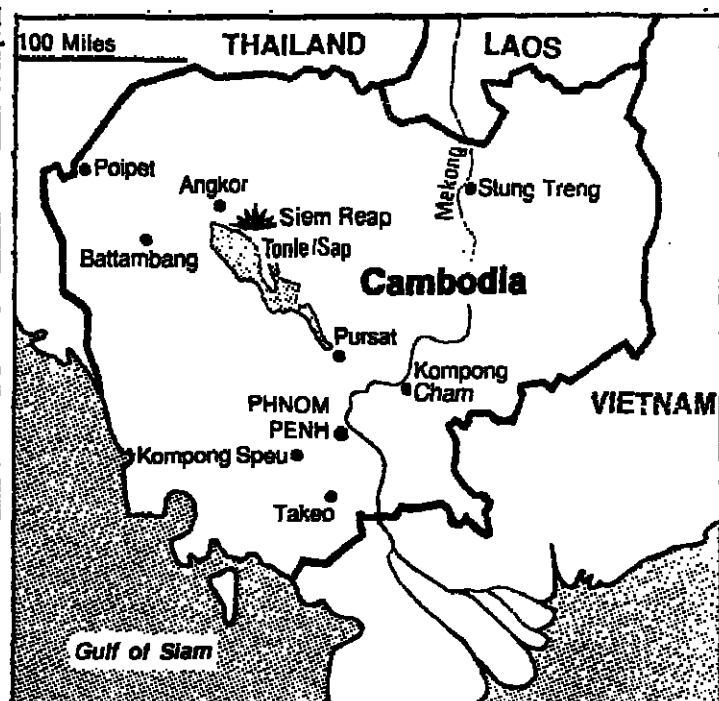
The success of negotiations could hang on the ability of the white government to use its security forces with restraint as blacks exercise new freedoms to express grievances.

Black anti-apartheid leaders are searching for ways to control mounting faction fighting among their own supporters, which also menaces progress towards negotiations.

Many whites and blacks fear a resurgence of the violence that raged through townships from 1983 to 1987. That bloodletting, which left at least 3,000 dead and shook South Africa to its foundations, began in the Vaal triangle, the industrial heartland of South Africa around Johannesburg.

In London, veteran ANC leader Walter Sisulu said Tuesday the latest township violence should not threaten talks between South Africa's white minority government and the ANC.

Asked by Britain's Channel Four daily television programme whether conflict between security forces and demonstrators would jeopardise next month's talks, Sisulu said by telephone from South Africa: "I don't know why it would."



Vietnam changed borders, annexed lands — Sihanouk

PEKING (AP) — Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk charged Tuesday that Vietnam has seized control of two Cambodian provinces and annexed several islands.

The most serious threat to the survival of Cambodia is the modification by Vietnam of the frontiers of Cambodia, Sihanouk said in a news conference.

Meanwhile, Thailand's army-run television station reported that Vietnam has proposed that Thailand and China join it in talks on a settlement of the 11-year guerrilla war in Cambodia.

The Vietnamese government made the proposal in talks in Hanoi Monday with Gen. Chavali Yongchaiyudh, the first Thai army chief to visit Vietnam since the U.S. Vietnam War, the television report said late Monday. Chavali, whose delegation included other senior officers as well as businessmen, met with Prime Minister Du Muoi, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Defence Minister Gen. Le Duc Anh.

Thailand has backed a coalition of three guerrilla groups fighting the government led by Hun Sen that Vietnam installed in Cambodia after invading the country in late 1978.

On the border question, Sihanouk said Vietnam moved into the provinces of Ratanakiri and Monivong and onto several unidentified offshore islands with the consent of the Hanoi-backed Cambodian government.

He also reiterated charges that Vietnamese soldiers remain in Cambodia despite Hanoi's much-publicised troop pullout last fall, and said 1 million Vietnamese settlers are in the country, in

some places making the Cambodians an ethnic minority.

Many of the Vietnamese settlers moved to Cambodia to escape fighting during the Vietnam War.

Sihanouk, who resigned earlier this year as president of the three-party resistance coalition, said general elections were impossible until the Vietnamese settlers were removed.

Hun Sen's government gave them citizenship, but that's not acceptable to us. Hun Sen's decisions are illegal, he said. Sihanouk also repeated denials that his faction is cooperating with the Khmer Rouge faction of the coalition.

The Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people in an attempt at a Communist agrarian revolution when it ruled Cambodia before Vietnam's invasion in late 1978, and there is concern that the group would regain power if the Hun Sen government is dismantled.

"I am not pro-Khmer Rouge. I am not red, not even pink," Sihanouk said. He said his forces and the Khmer Rouge occupy "neighbouring territories in Cambodia and when we attack the same enemy, a common enemy, how can we avoid seeing each other?"

Sihanouk in late February returned to Cambodia after an 11-year exile. At the news conference in his Peking residence, he handed out a glossy brochure showing his quarters in one of Cambodia's liberated zones.

He returned to Peking this month because his mother-in-law has been hospitalised in the Chinese capital.

China believed to export new ballistic missiles

PEKING (R) — China is believed to have begun exporting short-range ballistic missiles, probably to Iran or Iraq, to raise badly needed cash, Western diplomats said Tuesday.

Chinese Defence Ministry officials told Reuters they were unaware of any missile sales.

Western military attaches said shipments of the surface-to-surface missiles were being made while Western countries enjoyed vastly reduced influence with Peking because of a severe strain in ties since a bloody army crackdown last June.

U.S. President George Bush has said National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, on a controversial visit to Peking last December, was given a "very sound" pledge that missiles would not be sold to the Middle East.

But the U.S. administration has not specified what kind of missiles were covered by the

Chinese statement. Witnesses saw two convoys carrying 26 missiles as well as launchers and other accessories moving through the outskirts of Peking over a three-day period since Saturday.

The convoys appeared to be heading towards the main north China port of Tianjin.

The missiles were believed to have been the MIB, which has a range of 80 to 120 kilometres and is a relatively new addition to China's arsenal, developed within the last two years.

The convoys moved under cover of darkness with police cars leading the way and bringing up the rear. Police were stationed along the route, warning away motorists who approached.

Diplomats in Peking, lacking clarification by Washington, have assumed that China's pledge not to sell missiles to the Middle East covered ballistic missiles.

Fighting intensifies after pact to dismantle contras

MANAGUA (AP) — Three days after the U.S.-backed contras signed an agreement to disband by mid-April, rebels are streaming into Nicaragua amid reports of intensified fighting.

International observers and witnesses say contras bases across the border from Nicaragua in Yamales, Honduras, are almost empty.

They have become ghost camps. There's just a few of them left there, said one international observer who spoke on condition

of anonymity. Journalists who visited the camps last week had similar reports.

The contra leader who negotiated the demobilisation pact, Oscar Solabarro, said 2,000 rebel fighters have returned since the accord was signed Friday.

The movement of rebel fighters into Nicaragua could undermine hopes raised by the accord, which establishes a demobilisation deadline only for the contras in Honduras.

In Miami, the top contra military commander, Israel Galesano, insisted the fighters in Nicaragua would not disarm until the Sandinista army does.

"We are speaking of total demobilisation — that includes both ourselves and the Sandinistas," he said.

Sandinista leaders have said the party will not turn over control of the army to the new government unless the rebels dis-

arm. The Defence Ministry says there have been at least two clashes between the army and the contras since Friday in which 16 people died.

The ministry also said about 100 contras seized a truck Sunday night, robbed the passengers of cash and jewellery and made the owner pay \$500 to get the vehicle back.

The incidents reportedly occurred near the provincial capital of Jinotega, 160 kilometres north-east of Managua in northern Nicaragua on the Honduran border.

International observers say there appears to be a split among the contras over the pact. Both Solabarro and Galeano denied any rift.

"At the moment we are a very solid organisation. We mutually support each other," Galeano insisted.

Solabarro and a spokesman for Galeano, Alejandro Acevedo, denied that there had been an increase in fighting and said the Sandinistas were lying about the incidents.

"We think the Sandinistas are disguising themselves and staging attacks to discredit us," Acevedo said.

The demobilisation agreement signed Friday in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa between representatives of the rebels and of the incoming government of the United National Opposition Alliance, or UNO, calls for an immediate ceasefire.

Trump's wife seeks half his fortune

NEW YORK (R) — Billionaire Donald Trump's wife Ivana has asked a court to declare her entitled to half of the real-estate developer's estimated \$5 billion fortune, but said she did not want a divorce even though he had abandoned and humiliated her.

In the first legal papers to be filed in the headline-making marital battle of the Trumps, Mrs. Trump asked the New York State Supreme Court to declare invalid a 1987 that says she was only entitled to \$10 million in cash and property worth about \$10 million. A 24-page complaint was filed with New York State Supreme Court against Trump, whose marital problems have been the talk of New York for the past month. In it, Mrs. Trump alleged that in the last three years of their marriage, Donald Trump verbally abused and humiliated her to force her to submit to his demands. She says he abandoned her on Feb. 11. Trump has been linked with actress Maria Meneses but has not sought divorce or separation from his wife. He and glamorous Czechoslovak-born Ivana enjoy celebrity status in New York. Mrs. Trump's lawyer, Michael Kennedy, told a news conference that the complaint is not asking for an actual monetary award, but rather the right to half of Trump's assets by the invalidation of the marital agreement.

Donald Trump's lawyer, Jay Goldberg, said the legal action was full of holes and would not stand up in any court of law. Goldberg added that Mrs. Trump knew exactly what she was doing when she signed the 1987 agreement.

Japanese surrender again in two Jima

TOKYO (R) — Japanese forces on the island of Iwo Jima, scene of a bloody World War II battle, were defeated again this week — but by the sun rather than enemy warships, aircraft and marines. Japan's Defence Agency said Tuesday it had begun evacuating half the 300 navy and air force personnel stationed on the desolate island because its rainwater reservoir had dropped to a critical level. If no rain fell by the end of the month, all but about 75 would leave, a spokesman said. The wartime battle for Iwo Jima, a volcanic island about 1,500 kilometres south of Tokyo, began on Feb. 19, 1945 when U.S. Marines landed by sea. Almost all of the Japanese garrison of 23,000 and about 7,000 U.S. marines were killed in the fighting which raged for about a month.

Car thieves caught by using car phone

SYDNEY (R) — An Australian man, waking up on Monday night to hear his sports car being stolen, helped police catch the three thieves by ringing them on his car phone. "They were a bit dopey," said Richard Lassen, 37, of Sydney. "During our conversation one of them said his name was Steve and I heard the other guy use his real name." "It took a while before they realised I owned the car. When they did they must have tried to hang up," he told reporters Tuesday. The thieves put the phone back in its holder thinking that would cut Lassen off. But he could still hear them talking and the car going round sharp corners and braking hard. He guessed which suburb they were in, stopped the call and rang the police. Police gave chase and arrested the three when the car crashed over an embankment.

Texas candidate in controversy over rape 'joke'

HOUSTON (R) — A Republican candidate for the Texas governor's race has come under a storm of protest after jokingly comparing bad weather to rape, saying "if it's inevitable, just relax and enjoy it."

Clayton Williams made the remark at a media-attended cattle roundup at his 26,000-acre (1,052-hectare) ranch in west Texas over the weekend. When questioned about the comment, Williams, whose tough stances against crime have been a hallmark of his campaign, initially defended it as "just a joke" that was not out of place in the macho world of the cowboy. "That's not a Republican Women's Club that we were having this morning. It's a working cow camp, a tough world where you can get kicked in the testicles if you're not careful," he told reporters. But later, Williams issued a written apology.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Poles seek compensation from Germany

WARSAW (R) — Polish World War II victims protested Tuesday against German demands for Poland to renounce claims for war reparations and said Germany should pay "dignified and just compensation." The association of Poles harmed by the German Third Reich, which is preparing a compensation claim for more than a million Poles who did slave labour in Nazi Germany, said the German proposals offended international law and morality. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl asked Poland last month to confirm a 1956 decision to renounce reparations in exchange for formal German confirmation of Poland's borders which include pre-war German territories. The Polish government refused to link the two issues. It did not make clear if it would press for state-to-state reparations but has said it will support any justified claim the association makes. The association made clear it would press ahead with its demands. "We continue to consider dignified and just compensation for those wronged by the Third Reich as an indispensable premise for real Polish-German reconciliation and construction of a just moral order in Europe," it said.

Angola: U.S. increasing aid to UNITA

LISBON (AP) — Angolan military officials have claimed the United States is increasing lethal aid to rebels fighting a 15-year civil war against the southern African country's Marxist government. Portugal's News Agency LUSA reported. According to army officials cited in a LUSA report Monday from the Angolan capital of Luanda, two shiploads of U.S. war material, destined for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) were unloaded early this month at a port in Angola's northern neighbour, Zaire. The report said Angolan secret service agents claimed the equipment arrived Feb. 27 at the Zairean port of Matadi in two freighters. The report said one of the ships was Israeli but did not give the nationality of the second.

China expels 33,400 from party

PEKING (AP) — China's Communist Party expelled 33,400 members in 1989 for offenses such as abuse of power or ideological shortcomings, the official party newspaper said Tuesday. "Party inspection offices investigated 197,400 cases of discipline violations within the party, and measures were taken against 158,800 members," the Peoples Daily said. The 48 million-member party called for a reappraisal of the credentials of all its members following the pro-democracy movement of last spring that gained considerable support from party members. After the movement was crushed last June, party leaders said those who had failed to pass the ideological tests of the counter-revolutionary rebellion would face expulsion or other disciplinary action. However, the Peoples Daily report did not give a breakdown of reasons for the expulsions, and the number was not greatly higher than in past years.

Head of U.S. crime family indicted

BOSTON (R) — The reputed head of New England's biggest crime family and 20 other people have been indicted after a five-year probe that Attorney General Dick Thornburgh said Monday had plucked "a stake in the heart" of the mafia clan. Thornburgh, announcing three indictments containing 113 counts against 21 reputed organised crime members, also said law enforcement officials had for the first time secretly recorded an induction ceremony into a mafia crime family. Among those arrested in Monday-morning sweeps in Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts was Raymond Patriarca Jr., the reputed head of the Providence, Rhode Island crime family which bears his name.

106 boat people return home

HONG KONG (AP) — More than 100 Vietnamese flew back to their Communist homeland Tuesday in the 15th batch of boat people to be voluntarily repatriated from Hong Kong under a United Nations-sponsored programme. The 106 who flew back to Hanoi aboard a chartered jet bring the number of Vietnamese flown back voluntarily in the past year to 1,582. Another 1,700 boat people detained in Hong Kong have offered to return under the programme, which the Vietnamese government has promised to speed up to handle about 1,000 returnees a month by May. About 55,000 Vietnamese are being held in prison-like camps in this British colony.

Another Stalin-era mass grave found in Germany

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany said Tuesday it had discovered what appears to be a second secret mass grave of victims of Stalin's security police, just north of Berlin.

The East German News Agency (ADN) said workers had found human remains after excavations in woods near the town of Oranienburg, not far from a Nazi concentration camp which was converted into a Stalinist internment camp after World War II.

Jessica Tandy, Daniel Day-Lewis win top Oscars

LOS ANGELES (R) — Eighty-year-old actress Jessica Tandy and comparative British newcomer Daniel Day-Lewis won Hollywood Oscars for best actress and actor and Driving Miss Daisy drove off with most awards, in cluding best picture.

"You have just provided me with the makings of one hell of a week-end in Dublin," the normally shy Day-Lewis said after receiving his Oscar for his role as the feisty, crippled Irish writer and poet Christy Brown in My Left Foot.

It was a big night for the Irish film, which was made independently with none of the big Hollywood promotion.

Irish actress Brenda Fricker won the award for best supporting actress for playing Brown's indomitable mother.

Denzel Washington was named best supporting actor for his role of a runaway slave who joins the first black regiment in the American civil war in Glory.

But the betting favourite, Driving Miss Daisy, the gentle story of the growing friendship between a Jewish matron, played by the London-born Tandy, and her chauffeur, Morgan Freeman, in the U.S. south, led the field with four awards.

"I am on cloud nine," Tandy said after receiving her golden statuette to a loud ovation from the star-packed audience. "I never expected I would ever be in this position."

The white-haired actress, who made her stage debut in 1927, seemed overcome with emotion for a few moments and clasped her head while her husband and stage partner Hume Cronyn looked on anxiously.

The actress, still slim and erect with an imposing stage presence, became the oldest performer ever to win an Oscar.

George Burns, now 96, was also 80, but was seven months younger than Tandy when he won for The Sunshine Boys.

Tandy thanked — "that forgotten man, my Director Bruce Beresford."

Although the film received nine nominations, the Academy



Denzel Washington

of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, made up of 4,700 film industry members, failed to nominate the Australian Beresford.

It was a bitter sweet victory for Driving Miss Daisy.

The script was turned down by studio after studio and the film was finally distributed by Warner Brothers only after the budget had been cut from \$12 to \$7.5 million and the stars, including Tandy, had agreed to work for salaries below their normal levels.

The film has so far taken more than \$70 million at U.S. box offices.

Oliver Stone, twice wounded as an infantry sergeant in Vietnam, won his second Oscar for directing a Vietnam war film — Born on the Fourth of July.

It was the story of ex-marine Ron Kovic who came back from the war in a wheelchair and became an anti-war crusader.

Stone had previously been named best director for directing another Vietnam war film, Platoon.

Day-Lewis, who almost gave up acting before he was offered the role of Christy Brown, said in a moving speech before a television audience expected to reach a billion people, he had shared Brown's life with a remarkable young actor, Hugh O'Connor, who played Brown as a boy.



Jessica Tandy

"When he was alive, he (Brown) needed very little encouragement to make his voice heard. Now he needs a little more encouragement, and I am truly grateful to you," Lewis, 31, the son of the late British poet laureate C. Day-Lewis, said.

Brown suffered from cerebral palsy and could control only his left foot but managed to paint and write with the limb.

Day-Lewis had previously played a womanising doctor in The Unbearable Lightness of Being and a homosexual punk in My Beautiful Laundrette.

Fricker, little known to American audiences although she is a star of a BBC television series, Causality, said after receiving the award for playing Brown's mother: "I would like to thank Christy Brown for just being alive. I would also like to thank Mrs. Brown."

She also happily expressed some disappointment at winning. "I had bet a friend \$50 Lena Olin would get the award," she told reporters. Olin had been nominated for Enemies, A Love Story.

My Left Foot was the first Irish film to be nominated for best picture.

Washington, who had been nominated once before, for Cry Freedom, held his golden statuette aloft and declared: "I'd like to



Oliver Stone

thank the black soldiers who helped make this country free."

Pulling out his acceptance speech — with an academy rule limiting speeches to 45 seconds apparently forgotten for most of the night — he added: "Thank God I get to use this."

Stone, in a sombre mood, gave the academy his deepest thanks for, he said, acknowledging the Vietnam war was not over.

"Vietnam is a state of mind that continues all over the world for as long as man in his quest for power interferes in the affairs of other men," he said.

He thanked a smiling Kovic, who wrote the screenplay adaptation with him, for "his largeness of heart."

Driving Miss Daisy picked up its third and fourth awards when playwright Alfred Uhry, who wrote the stage play, won the award for best screenplay adaptation and the film also won the best makeup prize.

Tandy and Morgan Freeman, who played Miss Daisy's chauffeur and had been a favourite to win the best actor award, had also both appeared in the play on Broadway.

Gloria won two more prizes when British cameraman Freddie Francis won the award for best cinematography and the film won the award for best sound.

Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	°C	F	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	-01	30	86	52	Cloudy
ATHENS	10	50	24	75	Clear
BAHRAIN	18	64	24	75	Clear
BANGKOK	27	81	24	75	Clear
Buenos Aires	11	51	20	70	Clear
CAIRO	14	57	28	78	Clear
CHICAGO	-01	31	04	40	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-01	30	08	48	Clear
FRANKFURT	01	34	08	48	Cloudy
GENEVA	03	37	08	48	Clear
HONG KONG	18	63	21	70	Clear
MOSCOW	00	32	10	50	Cloudy
LONDON	05	41	10	50	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	12	54	22	71	Cloudy
MADRID	04	39	20	68	Clear
MECCA	20	68	29	84	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-05	23	08	48	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	10	50	20	70	Clear
NEW YORK	02	36	43	68	Clear
PARIS	05	41	08	48	Cloudy
ROME	10	50	16	61	Rain
STOCKHOLM	18	65	29	78	Clear
TOKYO	05	41	14	57	Clear
VIENNA	05	41	11	52	Cloudy

M - indicates missing information.

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